

1 H.341

2 Introduced by Representatives Rachelson of Burlington, Stone of Burlington,  
3 and Small of Winooski

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: Human services; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;  
7 postsecondary and career technical education students; eligibility

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to provide  
9 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits to certain postsecondary  
10 and career technical education students.

11 An act relating to providing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
12 benefits to certain postsecondary and career technical education students

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 1704 is added to read:

15 § 1704. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

16 (a) As used in this section, “student” means a Vermont resident who is  
17 18 through 49 years of age and is enrolled at least half-time in a postsecondary  
18 school or an adult or postsecondary career technical education.

19 (b) In order to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance  
20 Program, a student shall meet at least one of the following requirements:

1           (1)(A) be employed at least 20 hours per week or be employed for  
2           20 hours per week averaged monthly and be paid for the employment; or

3           (B) if self-employed, be employed for a minimum of 20 hours per  
4           week or be employed for 20 hours per week averaged monthly and receive  
5           weekly earnings at least equal to the federal minimum wage multiplied by  
6           20 hours;

7           (2) participate during the academic year in a federally funded work-  
8           study program;

9           (3) be responsible for the care of a dependent household member  
10          younger than six years of age;

11          (4) be responsible for the care of a dependent household member who is  
12          between six and 12 years of age for whom adequate child care is not available  
13          to enable the student to attend both school and work a minimum of 20 hours  
14          per week or participate in a federally funded work-study program during the  
15          regular school year;

16          (5) be a single parent enrolled full-time in a postsecondary school or an  
17          adult or postsecondary career technical education who is responsible for the  
18          care of a dependent child younger than 12 years of age regardless of the  
19          availability of adequate child care; or

20          (6) be enrolled in Reach First, Reach Up, or Reach Ahead pursuant to  
21          33 V.S.A. chapters 10–12.

1       (c) An individual's status as a student in a postsecondary school or an adult  
2       or postsecondary career technical education continues during school vacation  
3       and breaks. An individual is no longer considered a student for the purposes of  
4       this section when the individual graduates; drops out; withdraws from classes;  
5       reduces credit hours to less than half time; is suspended or expelled; or does  
6       not intend to register for the next school term, excluding the summer term.

7       (d) A student residing in a dormitory or other living situation with a meal  
8       plan that provides more than 50 percent of the student's meals is ineligible to  
9       participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

10       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

11       This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.