



Food4All: Ending Exclusions to Food Access

No Exceptions. No Exclusions. No Delays.

Problem: Unjust exclusions worsen food insecurity in California

California's social safety net protects families during times of economic hardship – but many immigrants in California are unjustly excluded. The California Poverty Measure shows that [64%](#) of undocumented Californians are living in or near poverty without access to our state's most powerful anti-poverty program: CalFresh. According to January 2025 estimates from the Legislative Analyst's Office, between 380,000 to 550,000 Californians ages 0-54 are excluded from this program due solely to immigration status.

The 2022-23 State Budget included a commitment to end the exclusion of income-eligible immigrants ages 55+ from accessing CalFresh food benefits. The 2023-24 State Budget allocated funds to implement this expansion beginning 2025, but amidst a budget shortfall, the 2024-25 State Budget delayed the implementation by two years to begin in October 2027. While this investment maintains progress towards Food4All, immigrants of all ages are struggling right now and must be included in this historic expansion to ensure that all Californians have access to the food they want and need to thrive.

Solution: Provide Food Benefits to All Californians, Regardless of Immigration Status or Age by 2027

The Food4All proposal will expand CalFresh access to all income-eligible Californians, regardless of age or immigration status. CalFresh is proven to [stimulate and stabilize](#) the economy, especially during economic downturns, and [2023 data](#) shows that participating in CalFresh kept 1.1 million Californians from experiencing poverty. [Research](#) shows that access to CalFresh improves overall health outcomes of recipients and lowers health care costs over the long term.

Our state leaders have the power to strengthen and protect families in California from the harm caused by food insecurity by making our food safety net more inclusive. Undocumented immigrants, DACA recipients, Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders, and certain visa holders are currently excluded from CalFresh due to their immigration status. By removing exclusions based on immigration status, we can strengthen California's food safety net and build upon California's growing movement towards immigrant inclusion. **By investing in Food4All for all ages by 2027, we can ensure that everyone who calls California home has the food they urgently need.**



BUDGET REQUEST

The Food4All proposal is a budget request in the Senate and Assembly. It is championed by **Assemblywoman Celeste Rodriguez.**

TAKE ACTION

Join us in securing a state investment to provide food benefits to all income-eligible Californians who are ineligible for CalFresh due to their immigration status.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Nobody should experience hunger because of their immigration status. No exceptions! No exclusions! No delays!

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