

Prepare your store team for Virginia's SNAP Beverage Update

— Stores are responsible for following guidelines at checkout —

Beginning **November 1, 2026**, carbonated sweetened beverages — including soda, diet soda, “zero” soda and carbonated energy drinks — can no longer be purchased using SNAP benefits.

No other food categories are affected by this update.

 NOT SNAP-ELIGIBLE	 STILL SNAP-ELIGIBLE
 Soda (regular)	Non-carbonated energy drinks
 Diet Soda	Unsweetened seltzer drinks
 “Zero” Soda	Lemonade
 Carbonated Energy Drinks	Juice
	Iced Tea
	Iced Coffee
	Milk and milk alternatives
	Yogurt drinks
	Infant formula
	Nutritional products like meal replacement shakes or drinks



Starting November 1, these drinks **cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits.**



WHAT TO SAY IF A CUSTOMER IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE CHANGES

“This is a statewide guideline that all stores are required to follow. You can still purchase these drinks with another form of payment.”

LEARN MORE:
dss.virginia.gov/SNAPHealthy



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