



# 3SquaresVT for Retailers: Eligibility

## Definitions:

**Perishable:** foods that are fresh, refrigerated, or frozen. Packaged or canned goods are not considered perishable.

**Staple Food:** a basic dietary item (e.g., bread, flour, fruits, vegetables, beef, chicken, fish, etc.). Snack or accessory foods; such as chips, soda, coffee, condiments, and spices, are not staple foods. In addition, you may not count ready to eat, prepared foods as staple foods.

**Variety:** is defined as different types of food. For example, your store has a variety of dairy items if you sell milk, yogurt, and cheese on a daily basis. It would not have a variety of dairy items if you only sold three versions of milk (e.g., skim milk, evaporated milk, whole milk).

## Is my store eligible for authorization?

To be eligible for 3SquaresVT, a store must sell food for home preparation and consumption. Your business must either:

1. Sell at least three varieties of each of the following staple food groups on a daily basis (including perishable foods in at least two of the following categories):

- Meat, poultry, or fish
- Bread or cereal
- Vegetables or fruits
- Dairy products



## Or:

2. Receive more than 50% of gross sales from the sale of these staple foods.



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End Childhood Hunger  
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 VERMONT  
DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
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