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In line for food stamps

Many students qualifying

By Mary O. Ratcliffe
■ The Red and Black
U. of Georgia

Roughly 100 U. of Georgia students receive federal food stamps — commonly thought to be for welfare mothers and destitute families only — estimates the local food stamp supervisor.

Sid Jessup of the Clarke County Department of Family and Children Services said students are "classic" candidates for food stamps because of their low incomes and few resources.

The coupons may be used in participating retail stores to buy any food for human consumption.

The DFCS defines a student as a person between 18 and 59 who isn't disabled and who is enrolled in college at least half-time.

Every single-person household must prove it receives less than \$648 in income each month (before taxes) and has resources of \$2,000 or less to qualify for food stamps.

Income includes wages, social security benefits and student financial aid. Resources include cash, checking and savings accounts, property and cars.

Eligibility is determined by case workers during in-depth interviews with applicants at the local DFCS.

"Students might find everything too much to handle financially," Chakmanian said. "If they meet one of the six special requirements, they may be eligible for food stamps."

The requirements include: having a paid job, participating in a work-study program, receiving a welfare check, having been placed in school by the Job Training Partnership Act, having a child younger than 6 living at home and caring for a child between 6 and 12 when no other adequate care is available.

Chakmanian said that proving eligibility is not an easy process. Receipts, paycheck stubs, income tax returns and bank statements must be shown to the case worker. The interview process is thorough, and sometimes "embarrassing."

"It lowers self-esteem incredibly," she said. "It's difficult to say 'I need help.'"

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Women

Continued from page 8

In my opinion there are, indeed, some forms of combat that qualified women could be assigned. The operating word here is "qualified."

If a woman has the right personality traits for this type of combat — the ability and motivation to kill another human being with hand weapons — she could be as successful as a man.

Women could be combat helicopter pilots. Courage was the overriding characteristic I witnessed in helicopter pilots, and certainly courage does not reside only in men's souls.

I think women could also be door gunners on helicopters.

Couldn't women be snipers as well? There is no reason why a man should be better at picking off an enemy soldier at great distances.

There are, however, some types of combat assignments that should be restricted to men: the M-60 machine gunner and his partners the ammunition carrier, the radio operator with his gear on his back, the grenade launcher, flame throwers, combat bulldozer operators and artillery and mortar units.

There is another combat unit to which women should not be assigned: the ground troops.

How do I describe battle scenes with mud and rain, searing 130-degree heat, 40-degree below-zero cold, no sleep or food for days on end, heavy gear, long marches and your friends dying in front of you?

Do women have what it takes for this particular type of combat? I think not.

Robert Spear,
Staff Member,
Rutgers U. Housing Department