



SNAP E&T REVIEW



June 2016

New to the SNAP to Skills Project?

Launched in October of 2015, *SNAP to Skills* (S2S) is a project of USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), operated in partnership with Seattle Jobs Initiative (SJI), to provide States the tools and resources they need to develop job-driven SNAP E&T programs that help SNAP participants find jobs and work toward self-sufficiency. The project seeks to help advance SNAP E&T programs in all States through these tools and resources, while 10 States have been selected to receive enhanced technical assistance. These States are: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina and Tennessee.

The first two editions of the *SNAP E&T Review* are accessible here:

April 2016 SNAP E&T Review

May 2016 SNAP E&T Review

Securing Third-Party Partners to Expand SNAP E&T 50-50 Reimbursement Programs

Join us for a SNAP to Skills Webinar on July 20, 2016 @ 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM ET

Amid an increased need for skilled workers and a renewed interest in creating employment opportunities for SNAP participants, more States are looking toward building third-party partnerships using SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) 50-50 funding. In this model, training services are provided by community colleges, community-based organizations, and other organizations and 50 percent of their investment of non-Federal funds in these services may be reimbursed by USDA.

Please join us for a webinar on July 20, offered by the Food and Nutrition Service's SNAP to Skills Project, that will walk States through a high-level understanding of the steps involved in building a third-party partnership, including how potential providers are identified and assessed for program fit and how partners can be educated about SNAP E&T, contracted and on-boarded. Examples from two SNAP to Skills States, Arkansas and Minnesota, will be presented.

Register [HERE](#).

USDA and the Department of Education Encourage SNAP Participants to Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Connecting SNAP participants who wish to pursue a postsecondary credential with available Federal financial aid may open a critical door to employment and self-sufficiency. Earlier this month, a joint letter of USDA and the Department of Education was issued to all State SNAP Agencies encouraging them to inform SNAP participants about potentially available Federal student aid.

SNAP participants enrolled in programs eligible for Federal student aid will typically qualify for the maximum Pell Grant, which is \$5,815 for the current academic year. In some instances, SNAP participants attending an institution of higher education half-time or more may be ineligible for SNAP, unless they meet certain exemptions. For instance, a SNAP participant attending half-time or more who is enrolled as part of in the State's SNAP E&T program may still receive SNAP benefits.

Read the letter [HERE](#).

Upcoming Events, Important Dates & Resource Links

- **The SNAP to Skills Website is Almost Here!** FNS will launch a **new website** as part of the *SNAP to Skills* project. States will be able to access information about the project, SNAP E&T tools and resources, policy briefs, and stories from successful SNAP E&T programs. Experience learning opportunities with your colleagues on SNAP E&T topics and more. **We are planning for a July 2016 launch!**
- **SAVE THE DATE for the National Conference on Poverty and Economic Opportunity hosted by Heartland Alliance.** Join the Heartland Alliance, one of world's leading anti-poverty organizations, and other stakeholders from across the country on October 25-27, 2016 in Chicago, Illinois to tackle big questions focused on ending chronic unemployment and poverty. Find out more [HERE](#).



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