



SNAP E&T REVIEW



October 2016

The New Face of *SNAP to Skills*

The *SNAP to Skills* Website is Here! FNS has officially launched a **new digital platform for the *SNAP to Skills* Project**. This new resource will serve as a “one-stop-shop” for information and news about SNAP E&T. 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. **Be sure to visit the website often as we are always adding new content!**

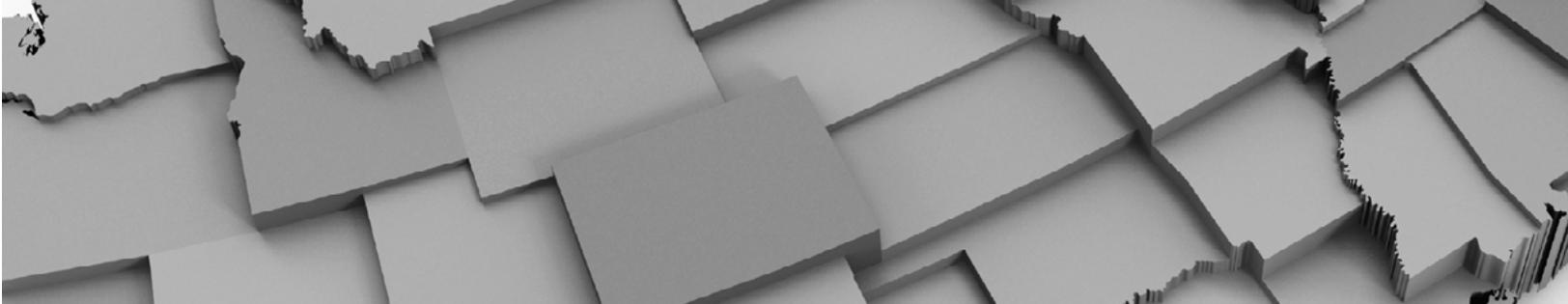
FNS Announces SNAP E&T Academy to Build Leadership Capacity

Today, FNS is announcing the first first-ever SNAP E&T Academy, which will use a “train the trainer” model to create new leadership capacity to build the next generation of SNAP E&T programs. The Academy will provide an opportunity for a select number of individuals to gain technical expertise on SNAP E&T that prepares them to work within their state or across multiple states building job driven SNAP E&T programs. FNS will select up to 35 participants for the eight-month engagement, drawing applicants from state and local government, along with advocacy, research and other organizations that have a significant stake in issues related to education and training strategies for SNAP participants. For more information about the Academy, visit the FNS blog. A call for applications for interested participants will be posted on the SNAP to Skills website in October.

E&T in Action: Integrating SNAP E&T into **Tennessee's** State Workforce Strategy

“Working together to navigate a path toward success for all Tennesseans.” Tennessee’s new vision statement embodies the State’s actions to integrate SNAP E&T into the broader statewide workforce strategy. With SNAP E&T, the State is boosting efforts to improve employment and training outcomes for low-income residents.

In Tennessee, SNAP E&T is managed as a partnership between the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (TDLWD) and the Department of Human Services (TDHS), though services are provided through TDLWD.



The State provides an array of services to support jobs and workforce development in Tennessee. Prior to its selection as a SNAP to Skills State, the program was limited in scope, utilizing exclusively SNAP E&T program grants (100 percent funds), and funding similar services as are typically offered at American Job Centers to SNAP participants in only 13 of 95 counties. Through its participation in the SNAP to Skills Project, it became clear to the State that a SNAP E&T 50-50 reimbursement program utilizing third-party partners would allow for significant program expansion and diversification.

A SNAP E&T planning group developed a *SNAP E&T Business and Implementation Plan*, calling for the piloting of a SNAP E&T 50-50 model in three counties with an eventual target of 42 counties. The Plan established a set of key milestones including: developing initiatives and programs with community-based agencies, Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs), and community colleges that can be funded through SNAP E&T 50-50 reimbursement dollars; developing a child care eligibility model for SNAP E&T participants; and, establishing a “reverse referral” process between TDLWD and TDHS. The State is taking action on this plan and has already established third-party partnerships with Goodwill of Mid-Tennessee, Advance Memphis, Goodwill East Tennessee, TCAT Knoxville, Southwest Community College (Shelby County), and TCAT Nashville.

Tennessee and its partners are coming together and are excited to move their SNAP E&T program forward with continued growth and success.

Read the Full Tennessee Story on the SNAP to Skills Website.

Learn More About SNAP E&T This Fall!

- **Join Seattle Jobs Initiative for their annual learning conference, *Beneath the Surface: Shattering Poverty Myths to Improve Program Design*:** The conference, featuring nationally renowned experts in the fields of sociology, behavioral sciences, psychology and design (including Kathryn Edin, Crystal Hall and Stephanie Fryberg) will take place in Seattle on October 13, 2016. Participants will learn more about what truths lie behind everyday poverty narratives and data and how these shape policies and programs. Participants will have the chance to apply what they learn in hands-on workshops focused on improving the effectiveness of their programs and anti-poverty strategies. Find out more **HERE**.
- **The American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) Conference:** The American Association of SNAP Directors (AASD) and National Association of TANF Administrators (NASTA) Annual Education Conference will be held in Orlando, Florida, October 23-26, 2016. The theme this year is Connect. Collaborate. Lead. FNS will lead two exciting SNAP E&T sessions titled, *WIOA/TANF/SNAP E&T Collaboration* and *Building Job-Driven SNAP E&T Programs through SNAP to Skills*. Find out more **HERE**.
- **The National Conference on Poverty and Economic Opportunity hosted by Heartland Alliance:** Join the Heartland Alliance, one of the 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. FNS will moderate a panel focused on how States and communities are leveraging SNAP E&T resources. Find out more **HERE**.

Upcoming Events, Important Dates & Resource Links

- **FNS releases Q&A on the *SNAP E&T Program Monitoring, Oversight, and Reporting Measures Interim Rule*.** This Q&A provides additional policy clarification responding to State agency questions concerning the interim final rule published on March 24, 2016. The Q&A's can be accessed **HERE**. In addition, FNS hosted a webinar featuring the Director of the Workforce Data Quality Campaign (WDQC) on September 14 that provided information on the new interim rule and data sources. If you missed this webinar, **request a link to the webinar by contacting SNAPE&TReportingMeasures@fns.usda.gov**.
- **New issue brief, *Improving Services for Families through Increased TANF Coordination with SNAP Employment and Training Programs*.** The Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families (ACF) released a brief that outlines the key areas where coordination between SNAP E&T and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The brief includes several specific examples of States successfully streamlining these programs. Access the brief **HERE**.

About 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 four editions of the SNAP E&T Review are accessible here:

April 2016 SNAP E&T Review

May 2016 SNAP E&T Review

June 2016 SNAP E&T Review

July 2016 SNAP E&T Review



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