



FNS Selects Participants for SNAP E&T Learning Academy

Last month, the Food and Nutrition Service announced the selection of 34 individuals to participate in the **2017 SNAP E&T Learning Academy**, which is intended to provide them the opportunity to gain technical expertise on SNAP E&T that will prepare them to work with their States or across multiple States to build effective SNAP E&T programs. These individuals represent 18 States from all regions of the U.S., as well as a diverse group of State and county SNAP agencies, workforce agencies and community colleges. Participants are currently preparing for the start of the Academy in February.

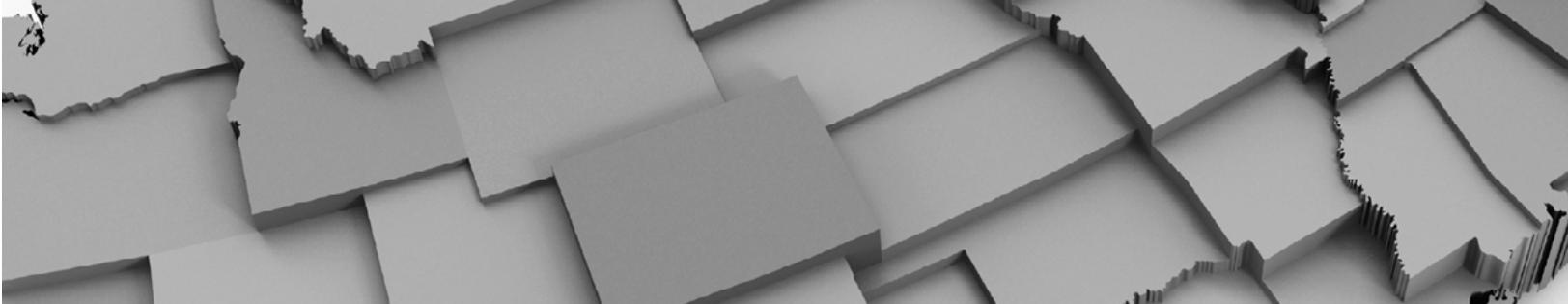
SEE THE ANNOUNCEMENT BLOG POST FROM USDA **HERE**.

SEE A LIST OF THE SNAP E&T LEARNING ACADEMY PARTICIPANTS **HERE**.

Upcoming Events, Important Dates & Resource Links

- **Don't miss the recently released SNAP E&T Best Practices Study: Final Report.** This study — mandated by Section 4022 of the Agricultural Act of 2014— reviews research on employment and training (E&T) program components and practices that: (1) assist members of households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to obtain regular employment; and (2) are best integrated with State workforce development systems. This review also included research on the effectiveness of E&T components offered to low-income individuals by other Federal and State agencies, and the private philanthropic sector.

Check out the final report **HERE** and the USDA blog post **HERE**.



- **Read the Final Rule on Job Retention Services in SNAP E&T.** The Final Rule “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): Eligibility, Certification, and Employment and Training Provisions of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008” implements provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill affecting eligibility, benefits, and SNAP Employment and Training. Critical to SNAP E&T programs, the rule amends the SNAP regulations to allow States to use SNAP E&T funds to provide job retention services for up to 90 days. Consistent with the memorandum of January 20, 2017, to the heads of executive departments and agencies from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff entitled “Regulatory Freeze Pending Review”, FNS plans on extending the effective date by 60 days and the comment period by 30 days.

Read the final rule **HERE**.

- **Read the new Proposed Rule “SNAP Program: Student Eligibility, Convicted Felons, Lottery and Gambling, and State Verification Provisions of the Agricultural Act of 2014” published in the Federal Register.** The proposed action would implement four sections of the 2014 Farm Bill affecting eligibility, benefits, and program administration requirements for SNAP. In particular, Section 4007 adds additional requirements to which courses satisfy the exemption for higher education under the student eligibility restrictions. The proposed rule provides that the exemption is limited to those who are enrolled in a course or program of study that is part of a program of career and technical education (as defined in Section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006). Consistent with the memorandum of January 20, 2017, to the heads of executive departments and agencies from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff entitled “Regulatory Freeze Pending Review”, FNS plans on extending the comment period by 30 days.

Read the proposed rule **HERE**.

Access the *SNAP to Skills* Website

In October 2016, FNS 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 and their partners are able to access information about the project, SNAP E&T tools and resources, policy briefs, and stories from successful SNAP E&T programs.

ACCESS THE WEBSITE **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.

Previous 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

October 2016 SNAP E&T Review

November 2016 SNAP E&T Review

December 2016 SNAP E&T Review



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