



United States Department of Agriculture

SNAP E&T REVIEW

SNAP TO SKILLS

March 2018
We apologize for the delay

SNAP E&T Learning Academy Kicks Off

The 2018 SNAP E&T Learning Academy kicked off on February 14. The 38 individuals selected for the 8-month engagement participated in an introductory virtual session, followed by a two-and-a-half-day learning session in Alexandria, Virginia in early March. Participants received in-depth training in SNAP E&T policy and program development, heard from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) leadership and workforce development and human service experts, and continued working on their individual projects to advance SNAP E&T in their own State and others. More to come about their progress and work!

READ USDA BLOG by Acting Deputy Under Secretary Brandon Lipps [HERE](#).

READ MORE ABOUT THE LEARNING ACADEMY [HERE](#).





Upcoming Events, Important Dates & Resource Links

- **SNAP to Skills hosted a webinar, *Better Jobs and Increased Incomes: Integrating SNAP E&T into Career Pathways Programs*.** The March 22nd webinar focused on how career pathways can help SNAP participants upgrade their skills and advance to higher paying jobs by completing training and obtaining credentials in industries with strong employment opportunities. Webinar participants learned how SNAP E&T can integrate with career pathways programs to create expanded opportunities for SNAP participants, leverage other funding, and fill service gaps to increase impact. Participants heard how communities integrated SNAP E&T with career pathways to create opportunities for participants to obtain better jobs and increase earnings.

Access the webinar recording [HERE](#).

- **A new College Counts report, *A Research Analysis of the Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative (CPI)*,** shows that the low-income parents in the CPI are earning college certificates and degrees at twice the rate of regular community college students. The Arkansas CPI began in 2007 and utilizes Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to provide academic and career counseling plus financial assistance for key supports, including transportation, childcare, books and supplies. CPI has enrolled nearly 30,000 low-income, mostly single parents since its inception.

Read the report [HERE](#).

- **The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) seeks comment on employer measurement approaches by May 7, 2018.** The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires public workforce systems to report a primary performance indicator of its effectiveness in serving employers. DOL is currently conducting the Analysis of Employer Performance Measurement Approaches, an analysis of employer services measurement approaches and metrics, with the goal of understanding and implementing a final indicator of performance. DOL would like input on the data collection for the analysis.

Access more information and instructions for submitting comments [HERE](#).

- **The Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness (CREC) developed two resources for States that want to learn more about using administrative records for program research and analysis.** These resources are the product of the CREC’s State Data Sharing Initiative which seeks to improve public policy program outcomes by enabling evidence-based policy-making through the sharing of State administrative records. The first resource, Advancing State Data Sharing for Better Economic and Workforce Development, offers five best practices on ways States can improve data sharing. The second, The Legal Guide to Administrative Data Sharing for Economic and Workforce Development, provides legal and regulatory context to this process. Read the State Data Sharing resource [HERE](#).
Read the Legal Guide [HERE](#).
- **A new report from *Achieving the Dream* explores how community colleges can help working students succeed by strategically bundling supportive services.** The report highlights 19 colleges that have taken this approach to benefit their low-income working students and shows why this approach is effective.

Read the report [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 advances SNAP E&T programs in all States through these tools and resources, while 10 States have been selected to receive enhanced technical assistance. In Federal Fiscal Year 2018, these States are: Alaska, Arkansas, California, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee.

Previous editions of the SNAP E&T Review are accessible [HERE](#).

508 Compliant Version

A 508 compliant PDF version of this SNAP E&T Review will be available soon [HERE](#).



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