

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

2023 SNAP E&T STATE INSTITUTE

Mind the Gap: Building a Bridge from Vision to Outcomes in Your SNAP E&T Program

September 20th and 21st, 2023 -- Westin Alexandria, Alexandria, VA

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is pleased to announce the FY 2023 SNAP E&T State Institute, *Mind the Gap: Building a Bridge from Vision to Outcomes in your SNAP E&T Program*. This semi-national convening will provide an opportunity for a select number of State SNAP agencies to build a vision for their SNAP E&T program and begin developing a strategic plan to accomplish the State's long-term E&T goals. FNS will work in partnership with the Seattle Jobs Initiative (SJI), to operate the SNAP E&T State Institute.



The goal of this year's Institute will be for States to carefully review the status of their SNAP E&T program and to acknowledge both what's working well and identify key program gaps and action steps that can be taken to achieve program goals.

HOW TO APPLY

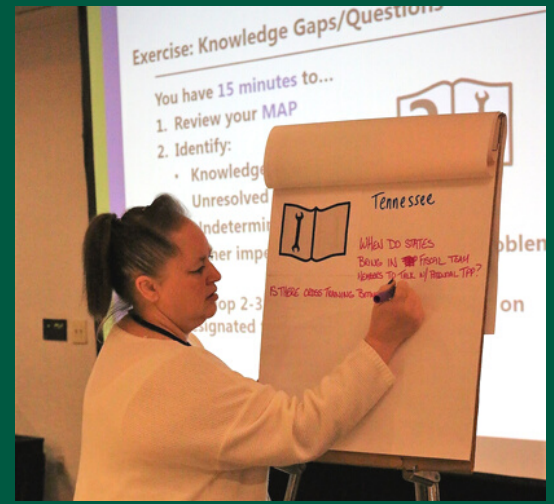
Applicants should submit a letter of interest by 5 pm ET on February 10, 2023. Applications should be sent as a PDF or Word attachment to SNAPtoSkillsProject@seattlejobsinit.com.

The letter of interest should include the following:

- State name and project lead for your State team
- Current State SNAP E&T Program goals and objectives for 2024 Federal Fiscal Year
- Your anticipated SNAP E&T team
- Statement of Interest (500 words or less) that addresses the following:
 - How do you hope to benefit from participation in the State Institute?
 - What SNAP E&T topics does your State want to focus on at the Institute?

The letter of interest should be submitted as a PDF or Word attachment to SNAPtoSkillsProject@seattlejobsinit.com.

Questions about the application process or the State Institute should be directed to Sean Walsh (sean.walsh@usda.gov).



Just a few of the activities and accolades from the 2019 State Institute

INSTITUTE DETAILS

What will participants do?

Speakers and presentations will offer relevant SNAP E&T best practices and information along with set-aside work sessions for State teams supported by SJI and FNS. In addition, participants will spend time with our expert facilitators working in groups to complete a gap analysis of their State's SNAP E&T program. Participating States will be provided with guidance, coaching, and technical assistance as well as State-specific SNAP E&T program data and will draw on their program goals and outcomes identified in their annual SNAP E&T State plans. States will be able to use this information to build an action plan for their program.

Who should apply?

State SNAP agencies are eligible and should apply on behalf of a team of up to five (5) participants, who may all participate in the in-person event in Alexandria Virginia. Individuals from partner organizations, e.g. State workforce agencies or SNAP E&T intermediaries and providers, may be included in the list of participants submitted by the State SNAP agency.

Is there a cost to participate?

FNS will cover transportation, lodging, and per diem costs associated with participating in the SNAP E&T State Institute for all individuals from a State agency. If a State feels that it would be beneficial to have representatives from non-State organizations (e.g. E&T providers or intermediary organizations) attend the Institute FNS may be able to cover costs associated with their attendance dependent on funding and State provided justification included in the letter of interest.

What is a gap analysis?

A gap analysis allows organizations to determine how to best achieve their goals. It compares the current state with an ideal state or goals, a process which can highlight shortcomings and opportunities for improvement.¹ For example, a State's goal for its SNAP E&T program might be reaching every eligible SNAP participant with appropriate E&T services. Conducting a gap analysis of the geographic availability and levels of services available might show where eligible SNAP participants live and what percentage of recipients have reasonable geographic access.

Questions about the application process or the State Institute?

Please contact to Sean Walsh (sean.walsh@usda.gov).