

United States Department of Agriculture

SNAP E&T REVIEW



August 2023

Medicaid/CHIP: Help Keep SNAP Participants Covered!

In collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), we are reaching out for your help to prevent SNAP participants from losing Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage as a result of the end of the Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE).

Here are ways you can help keep SNAP participants covered:

Partner with your State Medicaid agency to spread the word about renewals. You can find contact information on your State Medicaid agencies <u>here</u>.

Encourage SNAP participants who may be enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP to take the following actions:

- **Update** your contact information with your State Medicaid or CHIP agency.
- **Respond** to the Medicaid/CHIP renewal form when it arrives to keep your coverage.
- **Parents** should respond even if you don't think you're eligible your kids could still be eligible.
- **Consider other coverage options:** If you are no longer eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, check if you can get coverage through your employer, through the Affordable Care Act <u>Marketplace</u> at HealthCare.gov, or through Medicare.

Utilize CMS's Communications <u>Toolkit</u> (available in multiple languages, including <u>English</u> and <u>Spanish</u>) to execute the following:

- **Remind** SNAP participants you interact with over the phone about renewing their Medicaid or CHIP coverage and to update their address with their State Medicaid agency.
- Launch a text messaging campaign to reach SNAP participants who maybe on Medicaid or CHIP.
- **Promote** social media content and graphics pulled from CMS's <u>toolkit</u> on your social media platforms, including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.
- **Uplift** HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra's video (in <u>English</u> and <u>Spanish</u>) on Medicaid renewals across your social media channels.
- **Distribute** flyers at community events to remind SNAP participants about renewing their health coverage. Check out CMS's <u>website</u> to download sample and fillable flyers to use.

You can play critical role in making this a reality by helping make sure people stay covered. For State-specific questions, please have SNAP participants on Medicaid or CHIP contact their <u>state</u> <u>Medicaid offices.</u>

Practitioner Spotlight: Yvette Hernandez, Goodwill Southern California

Practitioner Spotlights are an opportunity to hear directly from individuals working successfully to improve SNAP E&T programs across the country.



Yvette Hernandez is the Program Services Coordinator for Goodwill Southern California (GSC). She has over 12 years of experience working on projects serving job seekers facing barriers in Los Angeles County.

GSC joined the Skill Up LA SNAP E&T program as a third-party provider in 2021 and has designed a unique approach in providing services to its seven employment centers throughout Los Angeles County. Yvette has spearheaded the development of GSC's E&T program which is now in year two and provided E&T services to over 300 Cal Fresh (SNAP) participants. GSC estimates that 85% of the people they serve are likely eligible for both SNAP and SNAP E&T. A key challenge as a new provider

has been figuring out how to share with the community the robust resources available in GSC's SNAP E&T program.

Yvette is driven by her passion to assist individuals with the highest barriers to employment. She takes pride in managing a program that provides a warm handoff for individuals facing complex obstacles to SNAP E&T services offered by GSC and its partners. These services include sector-focused job training programs, work experience options, intensive case management and connections to employers. As a former Cal Fresh and Cal Works Transitional Subsidized Employee recipient, Yvette understands the need to offer essential resources and timely supportive services to marginalized communities. Yvette wishes to be a beacon of light and hope to anyone she has the privilege to assist. It is her unique commitment and life experience that has enabled Yvette and GSC to develop an impactful and responsive program serving the residents of LA County

Now Available: SNAP E&T Pilots Summary of Key Findings and Considerations

In July 2023, FNS released a summary of the key findings and considerations from the SNAP E&T Pilots. This overview highlights the lessons and implementation considerations for improving SNAP E&T programs based on the findings from a rigorous evaluation of the 2014 SNAP E&T Farm Bill Pilots.

Access the full summary **HERE**.

Upcoming Events, Important Dates & Resource Links

Register Now: Annual CAEL Conference, November 8-10, 2023, Hilton Baltimore, Baltimore MD. The Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) is holding its annual conference at the Baltimore Hilton in Baltimore, MD on November 8-10, 2023. The conference is a unique opportunity to network with and learn from educators, employers, and community leaders focused on aligning learning and work so that adults achieve continuous economic advancement. CAEL is currently leading an FNS-funded National Partnership Grant project focused on connecting community colleges with SNAP E&T and will offer sessions on SNAP E&T and workforce educational programming.

Register for the conference **<u>HERE</u>**.

Register Now: Skills in The States Forum, National Skills Coalition

The Skills in the States Forum is sponsored by the National Skills Coalition (NSC) and convenes state and local leaders from across the country who are working to bring skills training opportunities to more people through policy changes in their states to ensure an inclusive economy. This year's Forum is scheduled for November 16th in Baltimore, MD and is an excellent opportunity for State SNAP agencies and their partners to learn about strategies to improve access to industry-focused training.

Learn more and register **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), 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 also providing multiple States the opportunity to benefit from individualized technical assistance to advance their programs. In Federal Fiscal Years 22 – 23, any State may apply to receive technical assistance on a rolling basis to support specific, short-term projects to advance their E&T programs.

Previous editions of the SNAP E&T Review are accessible **HERE**.



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