



United States Department of Agriculture

SNAP E&T REVIEW



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The Next Chapter of SNAP to Skills

Since its launch in 2015, the [SNAP to Skills \(S2S\) Project](#), a technical assistance initiative of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has been an important vehicle for FNS to provide States with the tools and resources they need to build more effective and job-driven SNAP E&T programs.

For the next two years, FNS will partner with [Mathematica Policy Research](#) to operate S2S and build new resources, facilitate virtual learning opportunities, and convene SNAP E&T State Institutes to foster peer learning and program strengthening. The project will continue to focus on building partnerships with E&T providers but will place a new emphasis on supporting States to build expertise in crafting a vision and strategy, improving data collection and reporting, and strengthening the financial management capacity of SNAP E&T programs.

We are excited about this next chapter and look forward to partnering with States, providers, and other E&T partners across the country to ensure S2S gives States the resources and supports they need to succeed.

That's a Wrap! Recap of the 2023 SNAP E&T State Institute

More than 100 SNAP E&T leaders representing 20 States gathered last month in Alexandria, Virginia, for the 2023 SNAP E&T State Institute. Guided by the central theme of *Mind the Gap: Building a Bridge from Vision to Outcomes in Your SNAP E&T Program*, the Institute gave State SNAP agencies an opportunity to step away from the day-to-day demands of program operations to craft a vision for their SNAP E&T programs and begin developing strategic action plans. Over the course of two days, State teams had access to nationally recognized experts, peer learning opportunities, and dedicated time to help them examine their SNAP E&T program, explore areas that are working well, identify room for improvement, and plan strategically—all in pursuit of achieving their program goals.

Key highlights from this year's Institute include:

- Aisha Nyandoro, CEO of [Springboard to Opportunities](#), and Maria Kim, CEO and President of [REDF](#), provided inspiring messages that laid the foundation for participants to work on their strategic action plans.
- Participants explored how to think like behavioral scientists to understand how design choices can impact outcomes.

- During breakout sessions, participants discussed a variety of topics such as program monitoring, expanding program capacity, selecting and onboarding providers, engaging customers, connecting with local workforce development boards, and using data to advance equity.

FNS partnered with the Seattle Jobs Initiative to operate this year's Institute. Read more about the [2023 SNAP E&T State Institute](#).

Stay tuned for details coming soon about an opportunity to take part in the next State Institute in spring 2024. It will be centered on the same theme as the 2023 State Institute.

FNS Awards FY23 SNAP E&T Data and Technical Assistance (DATA) Grants

In September 2023, FNS awarded approximately \$5 million in FY23 SNAP E&T Data and Technical Assistance (DATA) grants to the District of Columbia Department of Human Services; the Oregon Department of Human Services; the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services; the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services; and the Connecticut Department of Social Services.

The SNAP E&T DATA grants are designed to help States develop their SNAP E&T data collection and reporting systems and processes. This year, applicants put forth proposals to address one of two objectives: advance States' use of data to address equity issues in SNAP E&T programs, or help States improve the validity and reliability of their SNAP E&T data.

Learn more about how each of the grantees will use their [grant funding](#).

Upcoming Events, Important Dates & Resource Links

Resource: Equity in SNAP E&T Programs: Lessons from the 2022 SNAP E&T National Forum

This new brief shares key lessons that surfaced in sessions at the 2022 SNAP E&T National Forum and in conversations with presenters. The brief explores four approaches SNAP E&T administrators can apply in their program design and delivery of SNAP E&T services to incorporate a focus on equity. It also provides examples of how States can integrate these approaches into their SNAP E&T programs.

Read the [brief](#).

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. S2S is operated by Mathematica Policy Research.

Read [previous editions](#) of the SNAP E&T Review.

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