



Latest *SNAP to Skills* Policy Brief: *Securing Third-Party Partners for SNAP E&T Programs*

Third-party partners, such as community-based organizations, community colleges, and others, are critical to building and growing a robust SNAP E&T Program. These providers can expand the reach of a State's SNAP E&T program while fulfilling their own mission to serve low-income individuals by utilizing the SNAP E&T 50-50 funding.

In this third *SNAP to Skills* policy brief, *Securing Provider Partners for SNAP E&T Programs*, we provide a high-level understanding of the steps involved in building a third-party partnership. This includes:

- How potential SNAP E&T partners – such as community-based organizations and community colleges – are identified and assessed for program fit;
- How partners can be educated about SNAP E&T, contracted and on-boarded; and
- Examples of this process in action from two *SNAP to Skills* States, Minnesota and Arkansas.

READ THE FULL BRIEF **HERE**

SNAP to Skills' first two policy briefs can be accessed here:

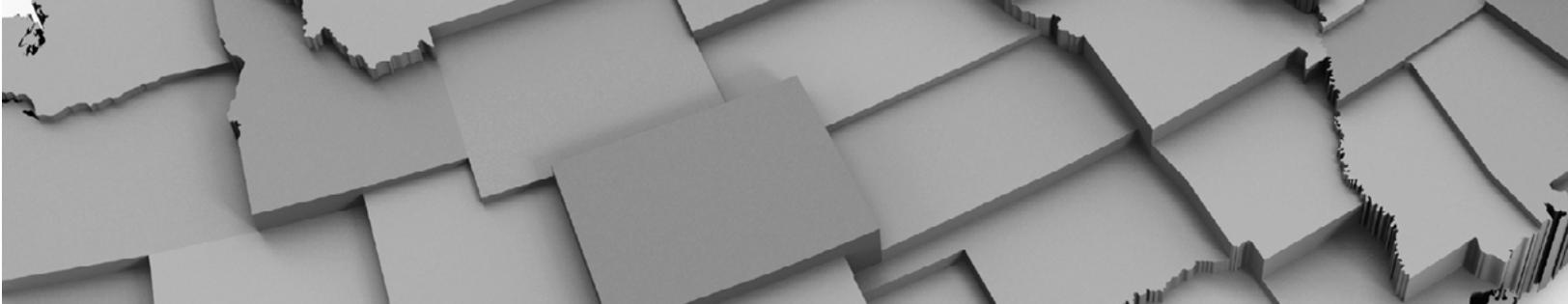
Why Now is the Time for States to Build Their SNAP E&T Programs (April 2016)

Using SNAP E&T to Offer Job-Driven Training for Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) (May 2016)

Missed the *SNAP to Skills* Webinar This Week?

The *SNAP to Skills* Project hosted its webinar, *Securing Third-Party Partners for SNAP E&T Programs*, on July 20. At this widely-attended event, representatives from FNS and SJI walked participants through the steps to use when identifying, assessing, educating, contracting with, and onboarding new partners. Arkansas joined to share their recent experience identifying possible providers in the State and Minnesota provided background on an extensive process to map non-federal resources available to be leveraged for the SNAP E&T 50-50 program in Hennepin County, Minnesota.

VIEW THE ARCHIVED WEBINAR **HERE**.



E&T in Action: Highlights from Our States

North Carolina: Building a SNAP E&T Program County by County

North Carolina's vision for its SNAP E&T program, called the Food and Nutrition Services Employment and Training program (FNS E&T), is "Strengthening families and communities by creating opportunities that lead to living-wage jobs for sustainable success." North Carolina operates a State-supervised, county-administered SNAP E&T program, meaning that many program functions are the responsibility of the 100 counties within the State and supervised by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Social Services (DSS).

North Carolina operates a voluntary E&T program in nine counties, utilizing primarily 100 percent SNAP E&T funding. Two of these counties, Buncombe and Mecklenburg, began third-party partnerships for their E&T programs in January 2016. Both counties contracted with the local Goodwill Industries, but Mecklenburg has also partnered with the Urban League of Central Carolinas as well.

North Carolina is now working with the *SNAP to Skills* project to expand and improve its FNS E&T program. North Carolina prioritized the development of a sustainable 50-50 reimbursement program and piloting it in its active counties as well as a number of new counties. The State's larger goals include:

- Increasing FNS E&T staffing to handle the additional workload of an expanded program;
- Ensuring that current counties offer more viable work activities such as on-the-job training, work experience and apprenticeship programs;
- Increasing the number of E&T counties by at least three in the next year; and
- Developing more robust partnerships with the community college system, community based organizations and employers to support a more job-driven E&T program.

North Carolina is excited about the future of its E&T program. With *SNAP to Skills'* guidance, the State is working with counties to help them identify third-party partners and local match funds essential to building 50-50 program models. DHHS/DSS is also working to engage North Carolina's community college system at the statewide level to create a broader partnership to bring on colleges as third-party E&T partners. The State is planning for steady growth, while working to ensure that it has the infrastructure and systems in place to adequately support this growth and minimize setbacks.

Upcoming Events, Important Dates & Resource Links

- **The SNAP to Skills Website is Almost Here!** FNS will launch a **new website** as part of the SNAP to Skills project. States will be able to access information about the project, SNAP E&T tools and resources, policy briefs, and stories from successful SNAP E&T programs. Experience learning opportunities with your colleagues on SNAP E&T topics and more. **We are now planning for an August 2016 launch!**
- **SAVE THE DATE for the National Conference on Poverty and Opportunity hosted by Heartland Alliance.** Join the Heartland Alliance, one of the world's leading anti-poverty organizations, and other stakeholders from across the country on October 25-27, 2016 in Chicago, Illinois to tackle big questions focused on ending chronic unemployment and poverty. Find out more **HERE**.
- **SAVE THE DATE for the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) Conference!** The American Association of SNAP Directors (AASD) and National Association of TANF Administrators (NASTA) Annual Education Conference, affiliates of the American Public Human Services Association (APSHA) will be held in Orlando, Florida, October 23 – 26, 2016. The theme this year is Connect. Collaborate. Lead. And will focus on continuing to transform the delivery of human services. The education conference will bring together two affiliates who are helping to modernize the health and human services sector. Find out more **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.

The first three 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



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