SNAP E&T AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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AGENDA

• Introductions
• National Partnership Grant Overview
• SNAP E&T Overview
• SNAP E&T Eligibility
• SNAP E&T Funding
• Third Party Partnerships
• Elements of a Third-Party Partnership
• SNAP E&T and Pell
• Q&A and Next Steps
NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANT OVERVIEW

➢ Funded by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), aimed at increasing understanding of and scaling SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) services.

➢ ACCT partnering with American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) and National Community Action Partnership (NCAP).

➢ Goal is to engage a cohort of community colleges to participate in SNAP E&T specific training and TA, and develop SNAP E&T related resources and best practices for the sector as a whole.

➢ Webinar is a step towards familiarizing community college state systems and individual institutions with the technical aspects and benefits of the SNAP E&T program.
SNAP E&T OVERVIEW

➢ All States are required to operate SNAP E&T programs and must submit an annual SNAP E&T Plan

➢ USDA provides ~$350 million annually to States to operate SNAP Employment and Training programs

➢ In FY 2018, SNAP E&T served just under 458,000 participants

➢ States have considerable flexibility in designing E&T programs that meet the needs of participants and employers
SNAP E&T 50-50 PROGRAM

Federal

State

Third Party Partners

USDA-FNS

CBOs

Community Action Agencies

Community Colleges

ACCT
SNAP E&T STATE PLAN

What’s in the State Plan?
• Vision
• Planned growth
• Role of third-party providers
• Components offered

Planning Cycle & Timeline
• Federal Fiscal year Oct-Sep
• Typical partner submission to State due in June
• State submission to FNS due Aug 15

Other Considerations
• Plan amendments – when are they needed?
  Can’t commit funds until plan is approved
• Consider State contracting process/timing
WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SNAP E&T?

SNAP recipients who:

- Are receiving SNAP in the month they participate in a component—except for job retention;
- Do not receive TANF cash assistance; and
- Are able to work upon program completion.

- SNAP and SNAP E&T do not have participation time limits
- States can operate mandatory or voluntary programs
TEMPORARY EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY FOR STUDENTS

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 temporarily expands SNAP eligibility to include students who either:

- Are eligible to participate in state or federally financed work study during the regular academic year, as determined by the institution of higher education

- Have an expected family contribution (EFC) of 0 in the current academic year. This includes students who are eligible for a maximum Pell Grant
SNAP E&T FUNDING

States are not currently maximizing their use of E&T funds

There are three major SNAP E&T funding streams

50-50 funds are extremely flexible

Federal SNAP E&T Funding

100 % Funds

Pledge State (ABAWD) Funds

50-50 Funds

Administrative Reimbursements

Participant Reimbursement
100% FUNDS

Administrative Expenses

• State staffing and overall planning, implementation, and operations

Direct Program Expenses

• Tuition and fees
• Case management/career navigation
• Job development
  ❖ Capped amount for each state based on formula
  ❖ Cannot pay for participant reimbursements (supportive services such as transportation)
50% FUNDS: THE REAL POTENTIAL FOR COLLEGES

Covers both administrative costs and participant costs (tuition, transportation, books, supplies, etc.)

Extremely flexible funding
- Covers wide array of allowable costs
- Can be aligned with other funding streams to fill in “gaps”
- No caps on amounts
THIRD PARTY PARTNERSHIPS

- Contracted with the SNAP agency
- Also referred to as third-party reimbursement program or 50/50 partnership
- E&T services are provided by third parties, such as colleges
- Colleges is reimbursed 50% through Federal funding on services funded through their own non-federal revenue
THIRD-PARTY REIMBURSEMENT

1. State E&T Plan is approved, federal funds authorized
2. State agency draws down funding
3. State agency billed by provider
4. State agency issues payment to Third Party Partner
COMMUNITY COLLEGE ROLE IN SNAP E&T

Community Colleges offer:

• Connections to the labor market
• Career Pathways opportunities
• Programs to bridge pre-college level students to college level training
• Apprenticeships or other integrated learning models
ROLES FOR COLLEGES: INTERMEDIARY & THIRD-PARTY PARTNER

- Holds one contract with the Intermediary
- Can receive 100% funds from State to support administrative oversight for a consortium of colleges – either brought together by a lead college or colleges that fall under the umbrella of a college board
- Uses their own 50/50 funds and contracts with the intermediary who passes through the 50% reimbursement

Colleges can also contract directly with the SNAP E&T agency as third-party partners
SNAP E&T REFERRAL MECHANISMS

Direct Referral

1. Point of Entry
2. State E&T Agency Screens, verifies eligibility & enrolls in SNAP E&T
3. “Service Referral”
4. E&T Service Provider Assess, enroll in services

Reverse Referral

1. Point of Entry
2. E&T Service Provider Assess/determine fit for own E&T services
3. “Eligibility Referral”
4. State E&T Agency verifies eligibility & enrolls in SNAP E&T

*Can be enrolled in SNAP to become eligible for SNAP E&T
THIRD PARTY PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION

- Program Eligibility
- SNAP Eligibility

- Program Enrollment

- Verify SNAP E&T eligibility
- Refer into SNAP E&T

- Billing roster to verify eligibility (coinciding with timing of incurring costs)
THIRD-PARTY PARTNER ELEMENTS

Participants
Services
Funds
Capacity

Best opportunity for 50% Reimbursement
SERVICES: E&T COMPONENTS

Integrated Case Management

- Supervised Job Search
- Job Search Training
- Work Experience
- Subsidized Employment*
- On-the-Job Training
- Education
- Self-Employment
- Job Retention

Participants

Services

Capacity

Funds
SERVICES: WRAPAROUND SUPPORT

- Transportation
- Work Tools & Supplies
- Identification
- Tuition & Fees
- Child Care
PARTICIPANTS

SNAP E&T eligibility:
• Low Income – SNAP eligible
• Not receiving TANF
• Able to Work

SNAP E&T can support students who:
• Have a starting point at Adult Basic Education
• Negative experience with education system
• Need additional support to succeed
  • Supportive services such as transportation and childcare
  • Navigation or case management
CAPACITY: DATA & REPORTING

- Assessment & employment plans
- Case noting/ tracking progress
- Component Activity
- Outcomes
CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE & FISCAL

- Documentation of supportive services
- Federal funds management
- Audits & monitoring
- Budgeting & invoicing
FUNDS

- State worker retraining dollars
- Low-income student support
- Tuition set-aside resources
- Other State training funds for target populations such as re-entry, homeless, non-custodial parents
SNAP E&T AND PELL GRANTS

Guidelines:

• SNAP E&T can be used as a bridge to Pell

• SNAP E&T can’t replace Pell when it’s available - no supplanting of federal funds

• SNAP E&T can be combined with Pell; covering additional supportive services offered to SNAP E&T students who are using Pell to cover tuition and other expenses
TIPS FOR SUCCESS

➢ Start small

➢ Embrace collaboration and communication with SNAP Agency

➢ Integrate SNAP E&T into existing college administrative processes
  • Don’t need to reinvent every process to meet SNAP E&T criteria

➢ Eligibility Verification
  • Establish and Document Process

➢ Managing Federal Funds
  • Establish and Document Process

➢ Train Staff
  • SNAP E&T can often be integrated into existing college administrative roles
NEXT STEPS AND QUESTIONS

➢ More in-depth information gathering (survey)
➢ Listening sessions with potential cohort members
➢ Questions?
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