Navigating the Complexities of SNAP: Insights and Updates for Community Action Agencies

National Community Action Partnership
SNAP E&T Webinar Series
June 6, 2024

Helping People. Changing Lives. community Action PARTNERSHIP AMERICA'S POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK

APHSA American Public Human Services Association



The Promise Of Community Action

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

APHSA
American Public Human Services Association

SNAP Admin & State Options

June 6, 2024



SNAP BASICS

- *The **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**, is a federal program that provides nutrition benefits to low-income individuals and families that are used at stores to purchase food. The program is administered by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) through its nationwide network of FNS field offices. Local FNS field offices are responsible for the licensing and monitoring of retail food stores participating in SNAP.*
- SNAP is a part of the USDA's overall strategy to provide food to those who need it.

ELIGIBILITY

- Essential to understand your state's eligibility requirements
- Federal:
  - Income: 130% Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
    - Deductions, Resources
  - Household size and age
  - Work Requirements

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

How many food programs does USDA administer?

OTHER FOOD PROGRAMS

How many food programs does USDA administer?

- SNAP
- WIC – Women, Infants, & Children
- Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
- National School Lunch Program
- School Breakfast program
- Special Milk Program
- Summer EBT
- Summer Food Service Program
- Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
- Emergency Food Assistance Program
- USDA Foods in Schools

OTHER RELATED PROGRAMS

Non-USDA Programs

- Workforce Opportunity and Innovation Act (WIOA)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid
- Housing/Rental Assistance

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN STATE SNAP ADMINISTRATION?

- Eligibility processing, certification, and renewals
- EBT processing and technology
- SNAP Employment & Training
- SNAP Education and SNAP Outreach
- Quality Control and Fair Hearings
- Call center operations and customer service

FOCUS ON SNAP-RELATED PROGRAMS

Federal programs administered by state agencies

- SNAP Ed
  - Training & info on best use of SNAP benefits, healthy cooking/lifestyles
- SNAP Outreach
  - Reaching people not currently participating in SNAP
- SNAP Employment & Training (SNAP E&T)
  - Providing education, training, and employment services to SNAP participants, especially ABAWDs & work registrants
- Disaster SNAP (D-SNAP)
  - Food assistance associated with food loss caused by natural disasters

STATE SNAP OPTIONS

- State vs. County Administered
- Duration of certification periods
- Program alignment and benefits cliffs strategies such as Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE), which increases income and asset limits
- ABAWDs and Work Registrants
- Joint applications or processing with other programs like Medicaid & TANF
- Child support income and disqualifications
- Demonstration: Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP) and Standard Medical Deduction (SMD) simplifying eligibility people who are elderly and disabled
- Self-employment income

WORK REQUIREMENTS AND SNAP E&T

What is required and where there are options.

- SNAP has, essentially, 3 categories of work requirements.

General Work Requirement	ABAWD Time Limit	SNAP E&T
For ages 16-59	For ages 18-52*	Voluntary or Mandatory
30 hours/week	~20 hours/week	If Mandatory, people must participate & state must provide E&T slots for all eligible or provide exemptions
Can be means for DQ, unless good cause	Can be DQ if do not meet requirement for >3/36 months	

- These may involve significant administrative work to keep track of activities.
- It is the SNAP participant's responsibility to track > maintain eligibility.
- Sometimes they align with each other or with other workforce programs.
- SNAP E&T has several different components including job search, work experience, vocational training, and adult basic education.

THINKING ACROSS PROGRAMS

Importance of Coordination

- Many households are dually enrolled in SNAP and other programs, so as much as possible, state agencies try to align across these programs to make processes simpler for households.
  - These efforts may be hindered by legislation or data sharing agreements.
- When thinking about SNAP, it's important to consider how it is different from, but can align with and complement other programs, including Medicaid, TANF and other food assistance programs.
- Understanding and being able to talk about these programs with clients can minimize confusion.

FARM BILL PROGRESS

- Farm Bill text released on May 17th
- Included in the language:
  - Non-merit staffing options for SNAP E&T screening duties
  - Income disregard of subsidized wages in work-related programs for SNAP eligibility
- Unlikely there is any passage in an election year
- APHSA is working on providing feedback to House and Senate Ag. Committees

Andrew Schramm
Sr. Project Associate
aschramm@aphsa.org
www.aphsa.org



Evaluation

Please complete an evaluation for today's session. We greatly appreciate your feedback!

Surveymonkey.com/r/SNAPJUNE24

2024 ANNUAL CONVENTION

Inspiring Hope and Advancing Opportunity

August 28-30 (Pre-Con: 26-27) | Seattle, WA



Helping People. Changing Lives.
community Action PARTNERSHIP
AMERICA'S POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK

NCAP Thank you!

Contact us anytime!

Hayleigh Rockenback
Senior Associate, SNAP Employment & Training
hrockenback@communityactionpartnership.com

Maribeth Schneber-Rhemrev, CCAP, NCRT, PMP
Director, Organizational Capacity Building mschneberrhemrev@communityactionpartnership.com

