

WORKING TO BUILD YOUR SNAP E&T PROGRAM? GET HELP FROM THE EXPERTS!

Seattle Jobs Initiative (SJI) assists State and County SNAP agencies, potential and current SNAP E&T provider partners (such as community/technical colleges and community-based organizations), local governments, funders and others to develop, expand and improve high-quality SNAP E&T programs.



SNAP E&T TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM SJI

SJI provides SNAP E&T technical assistance in all aspects of SNAP E&T, including, but not limited to, the following areas:

SNAP E&T strategic/business plan development

- Developing SNAP E&T strategic plans and State SNAP E&T plans
- Facilitating strategic planning processes for SNAP E&T expansion

SNAP E&T program development and operations

- Developing agency staffing capacity/structures to administer SNAP E&T
- Identifying resources to support the administration of an expanded program
- Identifying and mapping resources eligible for reimbursement available within the State, community colleges, and community-based agencies for training and support services
- Identifying and on-boarding SNAP E&T program providers (strategies to find quality partners; tools to assess the readiness of providers for partnership; tools and processes for organizations to apply for partnership; orientation of providers)
- Developing strategies to utilize SNAP E&T to support career pathways, longer-term credit-based workforce training, and other State and local workforce goals
- Building and improving customer relationship management systems (MIS)
- Building and improving systems for SNAP E&T data collection to meet FNS reporting requirements and support continuous program improvement
- Implementing an effective system of eligibility, billing and tracking
- Implementing effective approaches for recruiting for SNAP E&T services
- Implementing collaborative models (State, colleges, community agencies, etc.)
- Implementing strategies to ensure SNAP E&T services meet the specific needs of target populations, including ABAWDs

Financial reporting and compliance

- Implementing sound processes for contracting, monitoring and evaluating program partners
- Implementing an effective billing process/cycle and system for tracking matching funds from all program partners and the lead agency
- Streamlining fiscal processes to minimize administrative costs
- Utilizing back-up documentation required in billing and reporting processes
- Creating reporting and billing forms

EXPERIENCE

For the past three years, SJI has served as contractor to USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to operate the SNAP to Skills Project, through which we have provided in-depth, hands-on technical assistance to 15 States to help them develop and expand high-quality SNAP E&T programs that utilize a third-party partnership model. As part of this effort, SJI has worked with FNS to build a national platform for SNAP E&T through the development and dissemination of tools, resources, and policy briefs; the development of the SNAP to Skills website, video, webinars and related content; hosting multiple peer learning conferences; and operating the SNAP E&T Learning Academy.

SJI has also been engaged directly by several States, Counties and funders to provide technical assistance on SNAP E&T program development throughout the U.S. for the past several years. Since 2005, SJI has played a leading role in helping to develop and expand Washington State's nationally-recognized SNAP E&T program (BFET), regularly published on SNAP E&T best practices, and advocated in Washington, D.C. for the continuation and improvement of the program.

OUR TEAM

The SJI SNAP E&T Consulting Professional Services Team includes individuals who possess a diversity of in-depth experience with the SNAP E&T program, endowing the team with a deep understanding of the program from multiple perspectives, including State government (SNAP agency and community college system), the workforce development system, as well as individual community-based organizations and community colleges. The team also has decades of combined experience developing and implementing successful skills- and sector-based employment and training programs for low-income populations with barriers, conducting employer engagement, and engaging in impactful research on addressing workforce development systems barriers as well as understanding local labor markets.

SJI was recently awarded the **American Association of SNAP Directors (AASD) Distinguished Service Award - Organization** for our work with States all around the U.S. to help them develop and expand high-quality SNAP E&T programs.

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