Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
Goals

• Review key elements of SNAP

• Dialogue about your interests
Outline

• Goals
• **Part 1: Mission and Structure**
• Part 2: Certification
• Part 3: Nutrition Education
• Part 4: Employment and Training
Mission

• The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008:
  - “to provide for improved levels of nutrition among low-income households through a cooperative Federal-State program of food assistance to be operated through normal channels of trade…”
  - and “increase food purchasing power for all eligible households who apply for participation.”
USDA FNS: Set eligibility guidelines; Pay 100% of benefits; Pay 50% of administrative costs; Oversight of State agencies; Authorize retailers

States: Administrative authority; Oversee EBT system; Financial management; Nutrition education; E&T; Consult with ITOs

County/Local Office: Process applications. Issue benefits.

Part 1: Mission and Structure
State Responsibilities Examples

- Certification of Eligibility
- Issuance of Benefits
- E&T
- Nutrition Education
- Quality Control

Note: States must consult with Tribes on everything in the State Plan.

Part 1: Mission and Structure
Questions?

- [www.fns.usda.gov/snap](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap)
Outline

• Goals
• Part 1: Mission and Structure
• **Part 2: Certification**
• Part 3: Nutrition Education
• Part 4: Employment and Training
Application Cycle

- Application
- Verification
- Interview
- Certification
- Benefit Issuance
- Periodic Reporting
- Recertification
Eligibility

• Financial:
  – Resources
  – Income
  – Deductions

• Non-financial

Part 2: Certification
Work Requirements

• General work requirements
  – Age 16 – 59, able to work
  – Can be excused under certain conditions

• ABAWD work requirements and time limit
  – Age 18 – 49, able to work, no dependents
  – Can be excused under certain conditions
Quality Control

• Measures the accuracy of State eligibility and benefit determinations.

• Data are also used for program improvement and analysis.

• States are subject to liabilities and sanctions for high error rates.
Questions?

- [www.fns.usda.gov/snap](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap)
Outline

• Goals
• Part 1: Mission and Structure
• Part 2: Certification
• **Part 3: Nutrition Education**
• Part 4: Employment and Training
Nutrition Education

• Evidence based nutrition education and obesity prevention helps establish healthy eating habits and a physically active lifestyle.

• Funding to each State is based on a statutory formula.

• Most recent guidance strengthened direction to States about tribal consultation.
Nutrition Education

- **In-Kind Services**: States provide Nutrition Education Services to Tribes through Direct Education, Social Marketing and PSEs.

- **SNAP-Ed Connection** is a resource-rich website for States and ITOs: [https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/](https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/)

- **SNAP-Ed Toolkit** provides more than 140 evidence-based interventions, on a variety of topics, for States and ITOs to choose from: [https://snapedtoolkit.org/](https://snapedtoolkit.org/)
Questions?

• www.fns.usda.gov/snap
Outline

• Goals
• Part 1: Mission and Structure
• Part 2: Certification
• Part 3: Nutrition Education
• **Part 4: Employment and Training**
Employment and Training

• **Purpose:** Provide participants opportunities to gain skills, training or experience to improve employment prospects and reduce reliance on SNAP benefits. Offer a way for SNAP recipients to meet work requirements stipulated in statute.

• Every State agency must operate an E&T program.

• States have a lot of flexibility in how they design their E&T program and with whom they partner.
The Basics

- **Three funding streams:** 100% federal grants, ABAWD pledge funds, 50/50 reimbursements

- **Reporting requirements:** State SNAP E&T Plan, participation, expenditures, and outcomes.

- **E&T Components:** At a minimum, a State must provide case management and at least one E&T component.

- **Participant reimbursements:** State agencies are required to reimburse E&T participants for all expenses directly related to participation in an E&T component.
Expansion of E&T

• Improving quality and relevance of services offered.
  – Focus on skill-building
  – Build more connections to state’s workforce and training system
  – Programs tied to local labor markets
  – Robust supportive services

• **Third party providers**: States partner with community based organizations and community colleges, experts in training and education to provide SNAP E&T services

Resources: [https://snaptoskills.fns.usda.gov/](https://snaptoskills.fns.usda.gov/)
Questions?

- [www.fns.usda.gov/snap](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap)
Thank You!