

# Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)



# Goals

- Review key elements of SNAP
- Dialogue about your interests

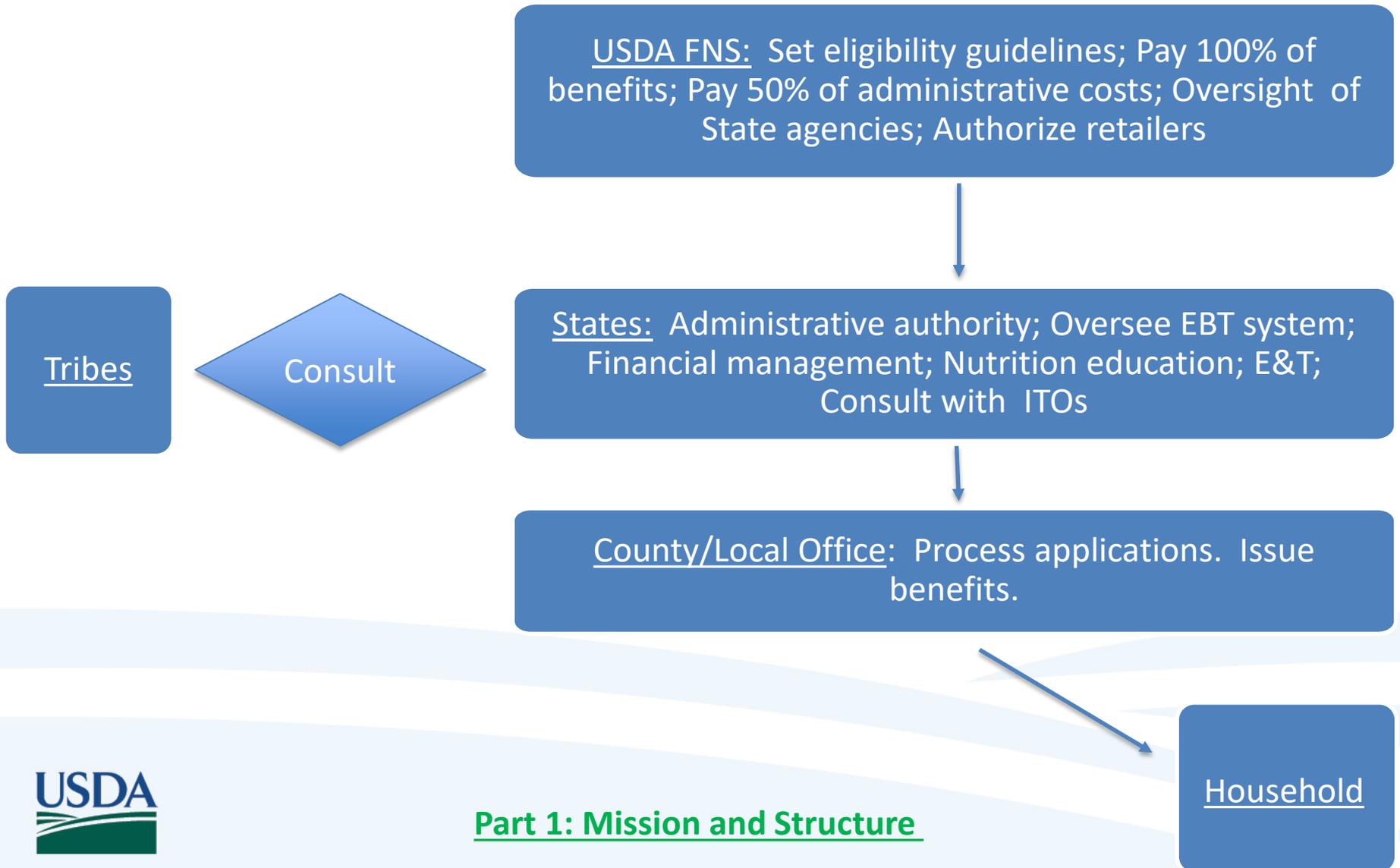
# Outline

- 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.”

# 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.



# Questions?

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

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# Application Cycle

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

# Eligibility

- Financial:
  - Resources
  - Income
  - Deductions
- Non-financial

# 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.

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# 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/>
- **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/>

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# 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/>



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# Thank You!

