



SCREENINGS OPTIMIZED: FOUR STATE APPROACHES TO E&T REFERRALS

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OCTOBER 29-30, 2024 | TYSONS CORNER, VA

State Speakers

SA

V

- **Andrew Singh Prihar**, SNAP E&T Policy Supervisor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Human Services

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- **Ricardo Williams**, SNAP E&T Manager, Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services

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- **Kristin Matthews**, Policy & Compliance Bureau Chief, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

CA

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- **Bill Koncelik**, Bureau Chief, SNAP E&T Policy, New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

Looking Back..



Farm Bill
Reauthorization
Every 5 years

2018

- State Workforce Board Consultation (or private employers) to develop state plan
- Further emphasis on case management and supervised components
- Inclusion of apprenticeships, subsidized employment, and workforce partnerships
- Expanded definition of good cause for failure to comply with the requirement to participate in E&T
- Addition of “provider determinations” if an individual has been assigned to an inappropriate component

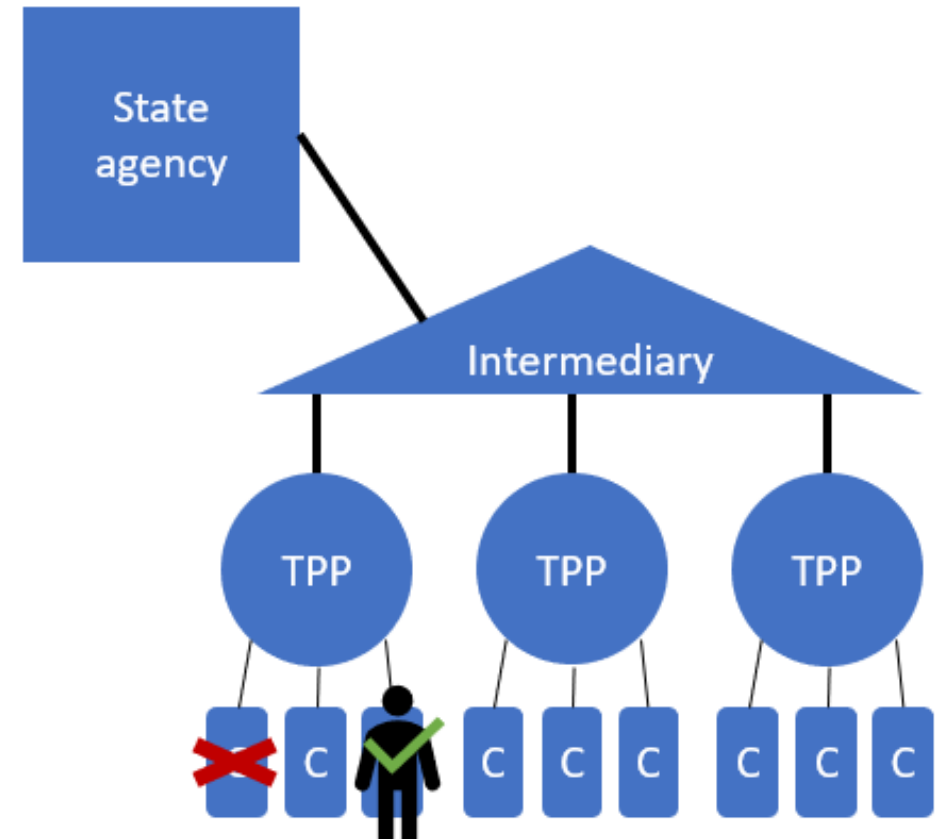
Looking Back..

“provider determinations”

7 U.S.C. § 2015(d)(4)(O) (prelim. 2024)
7 CFR 273.7(c)(18)

Upon a TPP having reason to believe an individual will not be successful in their component(s), the state agency must:

- (I) refer the individual to an appropriate employment and training program component;
- (II) refer the individual to an appropriate workforce partnership, if available;
- (III) reassess the physical and mental fitness of the individual; or
- (IV) coordinate with other Federal, State, or local workforce or assistance programs to identify work opportunities or assistance for the individual.



TPP = third-party provider
C = component

Looking Back..

From the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018

(O) REFERRAL OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with such regulations as may be issued by the Secretary, with respect to any individual who is not eligible for an exemption under paragraph (2) and who is determined by the operator of an employment and training program component to be ill-suited to participate in that employment and training program component, the State agency shall—

“(I) refer the individual to an appropriate employment and training program component;

“(II) refer the individual to an appropriate workforce partnership, if available;

“(III) reassess the physical and mental fitness of the individual under paragraph (1)(A); or

“(IV) to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate with other Federal, State, or local workforce or assistance programs to identify work opportunities or assistance for the individual.

“(ii) PROCESS.—In carrying out clause (i), the State agency shall ensure that an individual undergoing and complying with the process established under that clause shall not be found to have refused without good cause to participate in an employment and training program.”

“provider determinations”

7 U.S.C. § 2015(d)(4)(O) (prelim. 2024)
7 CFR 273.7(c)(18)

Looking Back..

Key Changes Made in Employment and Training Opportunities in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Final Rule

- Defined “provider determination”
- Required E&T providers to notify the state agency of the provider determination within 10 days
- Stated that ABAWDs will accrue countable months toward their three-month participation time limit the next full benefit month after the month during which the State agency notifies the ABAWD of the provider determination unless the ABAWD fulfills the ABAWD work requirement, or the ABAWD has good cause, resides in a waived area, or is otherwise exempt.
- Required the state agency to notify the E&T participant of the provider determination within 10 days (and that they’re not being sanctioned)
- Allowed the state agency to take one of the four actions no later than the next recertification
- Allowing, at State agency option, an E&T provider to enroll a participant in another component offered by the provider if the initial component was not a good fit
- Requiring that if the State chooses to coordinate with other Federal, State, or local workforce or assistance programs to identify work opportunities or assistance for the individual, the participant must not be required to participate in E&T.

Looking Back..

From the Employment and Training Opportunities in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Final Rule:

“The Department encourages State agencies to work up-front with their providers to identify the criteria for referring individuals to that provider and ensure staff are properly screening prior to referring individuals. This would go a long way in reducing the need for provider determinations. In addition, the Department agrees that State agencies have a responsibility to monitor their E&T providers to ensure provider determinations are fair and non-discriminatory. The Department will provide oversight of State agency implementation of this provision through ongoing management evaluations.”

...

“However, the Department believes, particularly with regard to mandatory programs, but also with voluntary programs, that the State agency, not other entities, must determine if a participant with a provider determination should actually continue to participate in E&T. Congress included, as one of the four options after an individual receives a provider determination, that the State agency reassess the individual's mental and physical fitness. The Department interprets this to mean that Congress intended for the State agency to only re-refer an individual to E&T or, at the participant's discretion, refer to a workforce partnership (the two methods of meeting a mandatory E&T requirement), if the individual remained eligible for E&T. Only the State agency can determine if an individual is eligible to participate in E&T, and if it would be appropriate for the individual to do so.”

Looking Back..

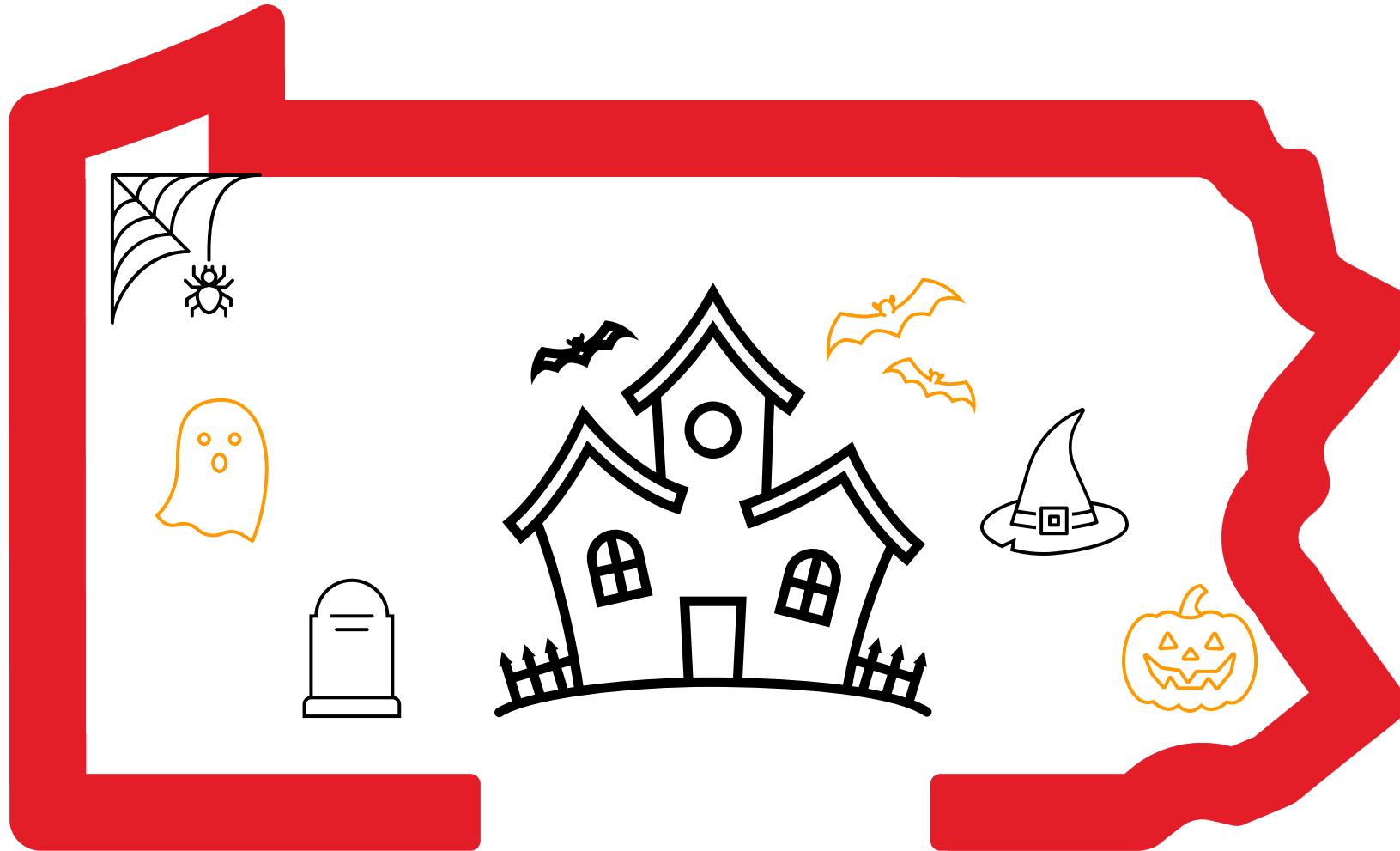
From the Employment and Training Opportunities in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Final Rule:

“The Department believes that the decision about which of the four actions to take at 7 CFR 273.7(c)(18)(i)(B) for an individual with a provider determination must be performed by an eligibility worker because only an eligibility worker can determine if it is appropriate, as a condition of eligibility, to refer someone to E&T in accordance with State agency criteria.”

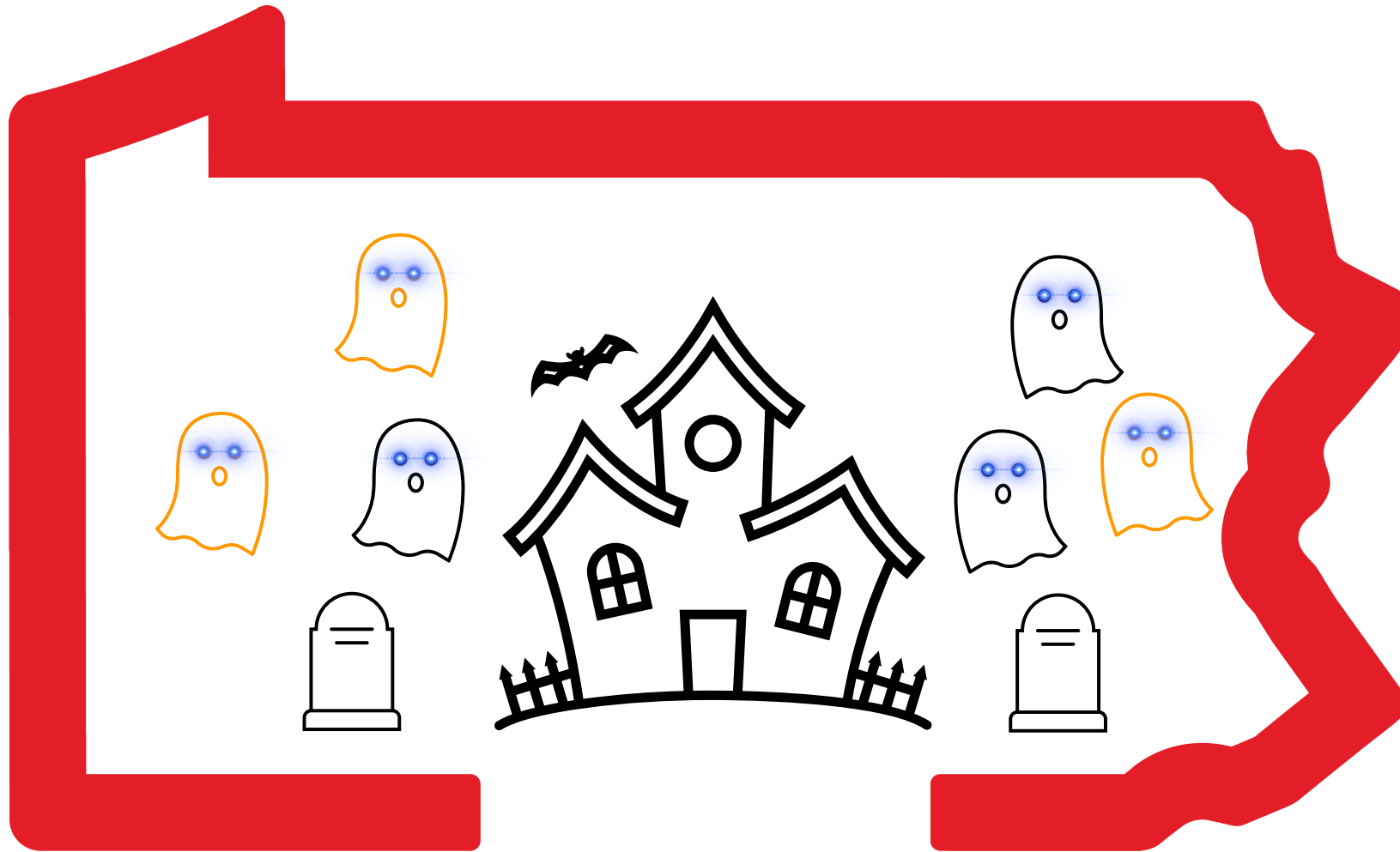
...

“If an individual has already received a provider determination after an initial referral to an E&T program, the State agency must seriously consider if E&T is the most appropriate placement for the individual, or if another program, as described in 7 CFR 273.7(c)(18)(i)(B)(4), would be a better use of a participant's time.”

Icebreaker – Spooky PA Fun Fact!



Icebreaker – Spooky PA Fun Fact!



Pennsylvania's SNAP E&T Program

Voluntary

- ABAWD waived or discretionary exempted through May 31, 2025

State-Administered

- State has grant agreements with E&T providers
- State makes policies for and administers County Assistance Offices (CAOs)

E&T Partners

- Local Workforce Boards
- Community Colleges
- Community-Based Organizations

CFR/Federal Definitions of Screening and Referral

**The code
are more
what you call
“guidelines”
than actual
rules.**

- Captain Hector Barbossa

What is Screening?

What is **screening**?

- “an evaluation by the eligibility worker as to whether a person should or should not be referred for participation in an employment and training program.” (7 CFR §271.2)



Unlike the *general work requirements* screening, which must happen at application/renewal, voluntary states can perform *E&T* screening after an individual volunteers to participate.

What is a Referral?

What is a **referral**?

- “Essentially, referral to E&T is the process State agencies use to inform individuals that they are E&T participants and to provide them with information on how to access E&T.” (July 13, 2022 FNS Guidance, 7 CFR §273.7(c)(2))

When is Screening and Referral Process Triggered?

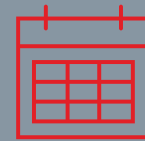
Application/Renewal

SNAP recipients are informed of the E&T services available in their area and have an opportunity to volunteer at that time.



Any Time

SNAP recipients may also reach out to the CAO to volunteer at any time during the certification period.



Reverse Referrals

SNAP recipients who do not identify interest at application or renewal may also volunteer later by reaching out to an E&T provider.



PA's Screening Process

1

Evaluate Interest in E&T

2

Review Education and Work History

3

Choose Best-Fit Provider

PA's Referral Process

4

Screen for Immediate Need for Participant Reimbursements (SPALs)

5

Identify Goals, Provider, and Hours

6

Inform Individual They're in E&T

Employment Development Plan

RESET

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
Employment Development Plan
 Initial Plan Revised Plan

CASE IDENTIFICATION	
COUNTY	RECORD NUMBER
CAT.	DIST.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

Your answers to the following questions will help to assign you to a training program. Please complete this form and return it to your caseworker. If you need help to complete this form, contact the county assistance office.

Are you currently working? YES NO If yes, how many hours per week? _____

If no, when did you last work? _____ Do you expect to return to work within 60 days? YES NO

Are you attending training? YES NO Are you in school? YES NO

Which of the following do you need help with to enable you to go to work now?

<input type="checkbox"/> Training	<input type="checkbox"/> Drug/alcohol issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Driver's license
<input type="checkbox"/> Language	<input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED	<input type="checkbox"/> Child care
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Ability to read/write	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Family problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

What would you like to do?

Enroll in job training Continue current training Other: _____

Find a job Get more education

Which of the following apply to you?

<input type="checkbox"/> I've worked six months out of the last twelve.	<input type="checkbox"/> I've trained for a specific job. Specify: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I've served in the military (excluding Guard/Reserves).	<input type="checkbox"/> I have education beyond high school. Specify: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I have a high school diploma or GED.	

CLIENT INITIALS: _____ WORKER INITIALS: _____

CAO USE ONLY – DO NOT FILL OUT THIS PAGE OR SIGN UNTIL INSTRUCTED

ENROLLMENT STATUS	REQUIRED HOURS	COMM. SERVICE OPTION
<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer <input type="checkbox"/> ABAWD	Hours/Month	Hours/Month

TWELVE MONTH GOAL

SERVICES REQUIRED – STEP 1				SERVICES REQUIRED – STEP 2			
BEGIN DATE:	END DATE:	COMPLETED?	DATE:	BEGIN DATE:	END DATE:	COMPLETED?	DATE:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	
PLAN:				PLAN:			
CAO SUPPORT ACTIVITY:				CAO SUPPORT ACTIVITY:			
CLIENT ACTIVITY:				CLIENT ACTIVITY:			

SERVICES REQUIRED – STEP 3			
BEGIN DATE:	END DATE:	COMPLETED?	DATE:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	
PLAN:			
CAO SUPPORT ACTIVITY:			
CLIENT ACTIVITY:			

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

You may volunteer to enroll in a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training Program (E&T). Each contracted program has admission and participation requirements set by the third-party operator.

If you are an Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD), you may choose to participate in SNAP E&T to meet the ABAWD work requirement and pause your three-month time limit on receiving benefits. You must maintain participation for 20 hours per week in approved activities to meet the requirement through E&T. The time limit will re-initiate if you stop meeting the hourly requirement for SNAP E&T.

If you fail to comply with SNAP E&T program requirements, you will be terminated from the SNAP E&T program and will no longer be eligible for special allowances. If you are not an ABAWD, your SNAP benefits will not be affected if you stop participating.

I understand that the above employment development plan requires my participation and cooperation and that I should notify my caseworker if any changes are needed in this plan.

CLIENT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ ETP WORKER SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

For more information visit: dhs.pa.gov/citizens/et or scan below.



3

5

6

2

1

4

2

PA's Referral Process

7

Submit Electronic Referral to Provider

ETP Project Enrollment			
Last Update:	By:	Update Authorized By:	Authorized By:
Individual Name: JOHNSON, DAKOTA - 29F			
Education Code: 15 - Awarded Graduate Degree (Master's or Higher)	Appointment Date: 10/14/2024		
ETP Code for Cash:	ETP Code for Food Stamp: 40 - Exempt but volunteers		
Transportation Code: 2 - CAR	Drivers License: Y - Yes		
Project Information:			
Project Code: SD - SNAP EARN	Project ID: 0024	Termination Code:	
Project Begin Date:	Project End Date:	Project Count:	
Referral Date: 10/04/2024	Referral Reject Reason Code:		



Johnson, Dakota (6828894)	Case #: N/A
DOB: 01/01/1990	Referral Status: Received
Address: 133 W MARKET ST , YORK, PA 17401	Referred Office: SOUTHCENTRAL WIA
County: York	Referral Date: 10/4/2024
CIS Record Number: 8802949	Appointment Date: 10/4/2024
Program: SNAP EARN (SD)	Referral Rejection Code:
CIS Recipient ID: 750388791	
Latest Contact Attempt: No Attempt	Accept Or Reject By: 10/19/2024

Contact Information

If you'd like to talk more about Pennsylvania's SNAP E&T program:



aprihar@pa.gov



(717) 425-7069

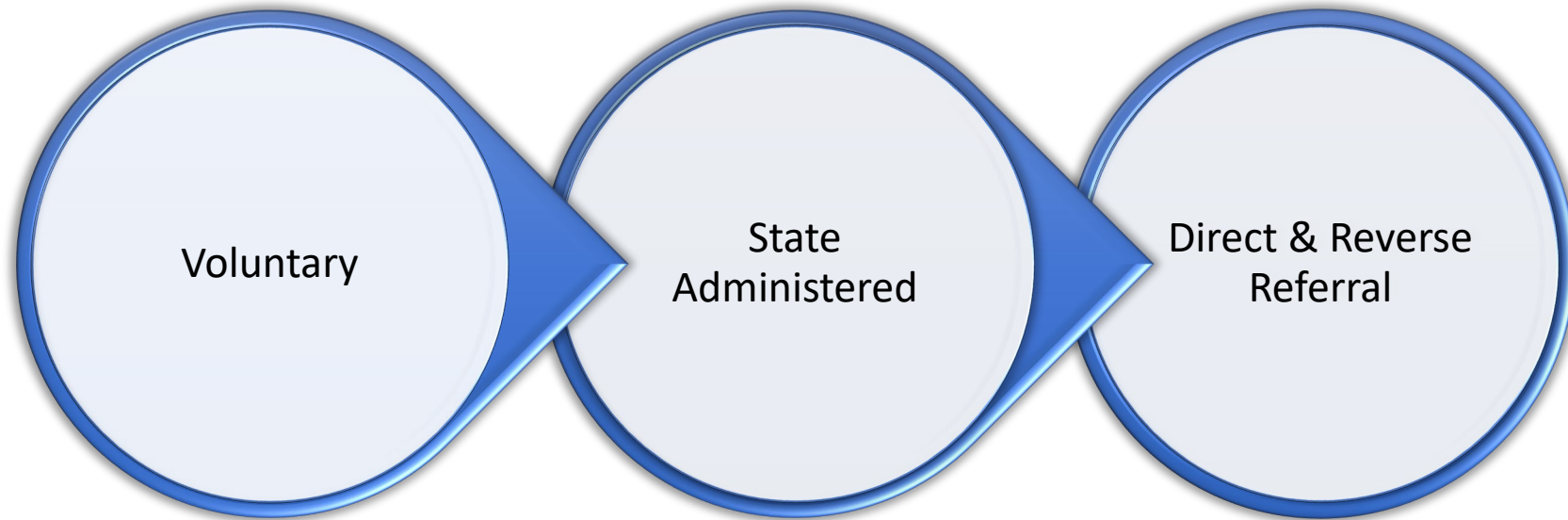
LOUISIANA FACTS



- Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services
 - State Office Located in Downtown Baton Rouge, LA
- Home to The Southern University
- Home to Louisiana State University
- Louisiana Population 4.624 million (2023)
 - Source: U.S. Census Bureau Estimate
- 417,619 SNAP Cases in June 2024
 - Source: <https://www.dcfslouisiana.gov/>
- 2,946* SNAP E&T Participants



LOUISIANA PROGRAM STRUCTURE



LOUISIANA PROGRAM STRUCTURE

DCFS – SNAP E&T



Louisiana Community & Technical College System (LCTCS)



United Way of Southeast Louisiana



Provider Agency



E&T Services

DIRECT REFERRAL PROCESS

SNAP Eligibility Staff screen each mandatory work registrant at application and at redetermination to determine if they are appropriate to refer them to the SNAP E&T Program.



DIRECT REFERRAL PROCESS

Non Financial - Questions

GL051: Please select value for 'Is there anyone in the household that meets the criteria for participating in SNAP E&T' field.

Do you want to skip this module?

ABAWD

Are there any Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) mandatory individuals residing in the SNAP household?*

Yes

SNAP WORK REGISTRATION EXEMPTION

Is there anyone in the household that has applied for, but is not yet receiving UCB OR has any barrier that prevents them from participating with SNAP E&T?*

No

SNAP E&T PARTICIPATION

Did we discuss the SNAP E&T Program with the client?*

Yes

[SNAP Employment & Training Participation \(SNAP E&T\)](#)

Is there anyone in the household that meets the criteria for participating in SNAP E&T?*

E&T Participation

[Reset Screen](#)

PREVIOUS

NEXT

CASE INFO

Human1 5148 33M


CASE ID:

[900068037](#)

CASE STATUS:

Pending

 [Add Case Notes](#)

 [Case Notes](#)

 [Page Help](#)

 [Print Preview](#)

 [Search Documents](#)

 [Clearance Summary](#)

 [Deferred CR](#)

Tue January 10, 2023

DIRECT REFERRAL PROCESS

SNAP E&T Participation - Details

CURRENT PERSON INFORMATION

Name:

Person ID: 267921845

SNAP E&T PARTICIPATION - DATES

Start/Change Date: / /

End Date: / /

Reported On: / /

SNAP E&T PARTICIPATION - INFORMATION

Is this individual interested in participating in SNAP E&T?

SNAP E&T Program Model - Which Model is the Individual interested in participating?

First Choice Model

Last Service Selected

Services Provided

Second Choice Model

Last Service Selected

Services Provided

Referral Status

[Reset Screen](#)

[PREVIOUS](#) [CANCEL](#) [ADD SNAP E&T PARTICIPANT](#) [NEXT](#)

CASE INFO

Human1 5148 33M
CASE ID:
900068037
CASE STATUS:
Pending

- [Add Case Notes](#)
- [Case Notes](#)
- [Page Help](#)
- [Print Preview](#)
- [Search Documents](#)
- [Clearance Summary](#)
- [Deferred CR](#)

Tue January 10, 2023



DIRECT REFERRAL PROCESS

Models

Education

Homelessness

Restaurant

Retail

Professional Development

Re-Entry

Online Training



DIRECT REFERRAL PROCESS



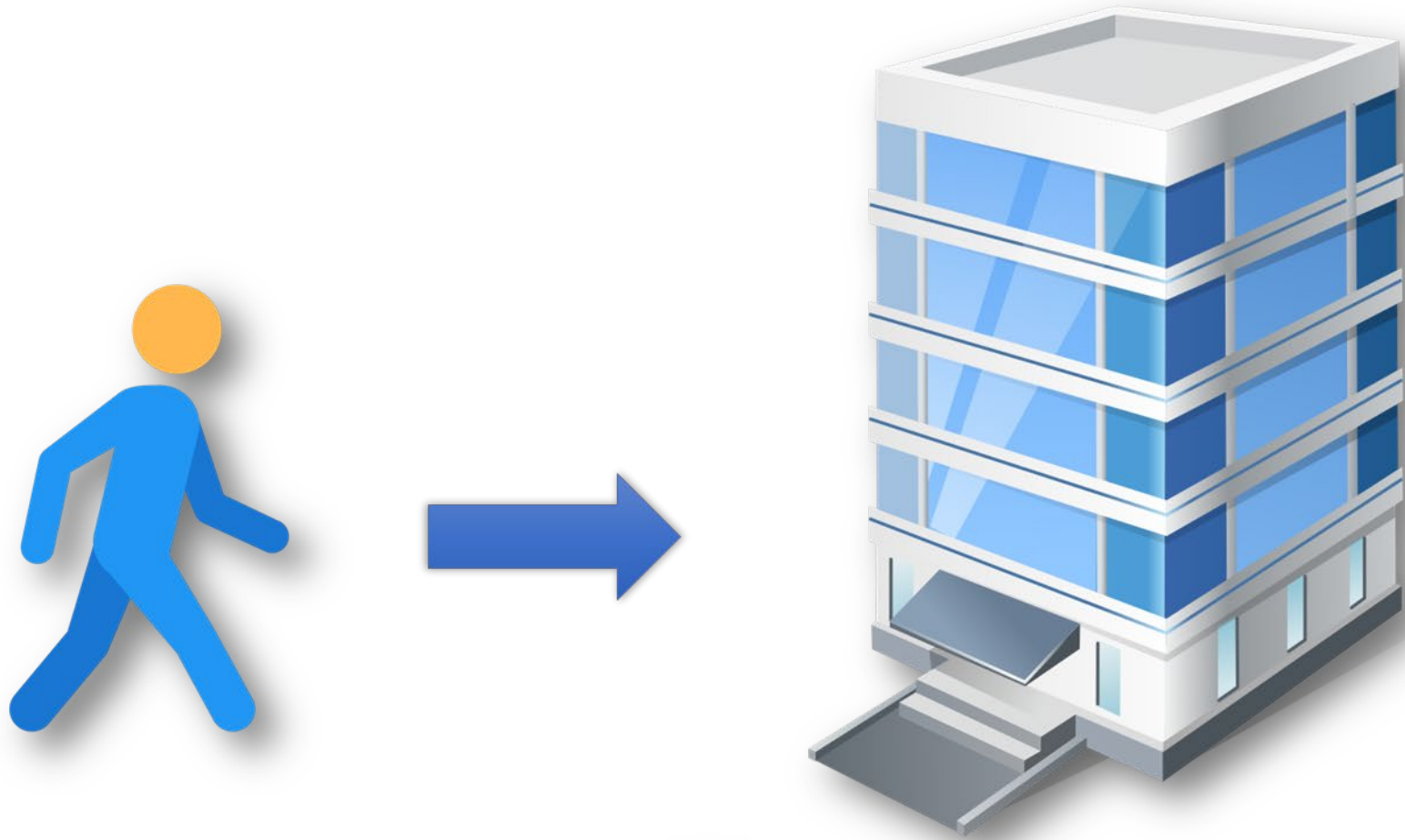
DIRECT REFERRAL PROCESS



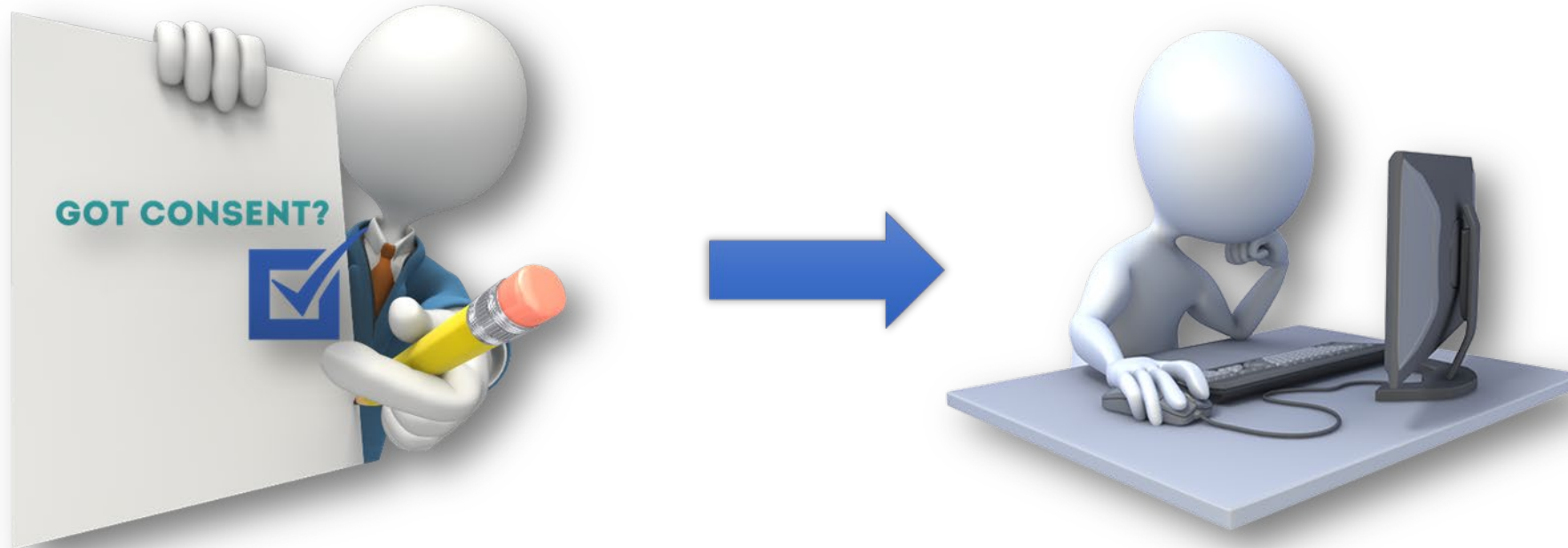
Applicant is referred to Provider upon case certification



REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS



REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS



REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS

Home Search Reports Cost Reimbursement Invoices Budget Admin Welcome Ricardo

Search

Search Criteria: Tasks Clients Reverse Referral

Search SSN



REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS

Client Summary Household Summary Employment Summary **Eligibility Summary** Enrollment Summary

Eligibility Summary

Program Type ↓	ABAWD Months	Benefit Amount	Certification Period Dates	Service Parish
SNAP	0	\$0.00	04/01/2021 -	East Baton Rouge
SNAP	0	\$430.00	04/01/2021 -	East Baton Rouge
SNAP	0	\$0.00	03/03/2021 -	East Baton Rouge
SNAP	0	\$402.00	03/03/2021 -	East Baton Rouge

1 to 4 of 4 < << Page 1 of 1 >> >



REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS

← BACK TO SEARCH

Client Information

Create Task

Create Task

Task Type
Reverse Referral Initiated (Informational)

Task Creation Date: 12/06/2023 Task Due Date: 12/08/2023 Referral Date: 12/06/2023

Task Status: Open Status Date:

Assigned To:
 DCF5 Staff Provider

Pick an Option

RESET SAVE SCREENING REQUIRED



REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS



Once Participant is sent to Eligibility to be screened. Eligibility workers will have **10 days** to screen the individual.

REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS

Unsuccessfully Screened in LITE

- The individual did not meet E&T requirements.
- The Task will be closed, No referral will be created for this individual.

Successfully Screened in LITE

- Provider can now proceed with program enrollment, assessment, Employment plan etc.

REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS

Home Search Reports Welcome Divi

Search

Search Criteria: Tasks Clients Reverse Referral

From Due Date:

To Due Date:

Task Status:

Task Type:

Task Sub-Type:

Program:

Parish:

Assigned To:

SEARCH

Task Type	Task Sub-Type	Client Name	Creation Date	Due Date	Completion Date	Assigned To	Service Parish	Task Status	Overdue	Action
Successfully Screened in LITE (Actionable)		Deepan D	07/03/2023	07/13/2023		BOAT		Open		
Successfully Screened in LITE (Actionable)		Karthika K	07/03/2023	07/13/2023		BOAT		Open		
Successfully Screened in LITE		Mani M	06/30/2023	07/10/2023	06/30/2023	BOAT		Closed		



REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS

Home Search Reports Cost Reimbursement Invoices Budget Admin Welcome Ricardo

← BACK TO SEARCH

Client Information

Create Task

Create Task

Task Type
Reverse Referral Initiated (Informational)

Task Creation Date
05/14/2024

Task Due Date
05/16/2024

Task Status
Open

Assigned To
[Redacted]

Referral Date
05/14/2024

Status Date
[Empty]

RESET SAVE SCREENING REQUIRED



REVERSE REFERRAL PROCESS

Home Search Reports Welcome Test

← BACK TO SEARCH

William, Bachra
SSN: XXX-XX-6543

Client Information

- Assessment
- Employment Plan
- Components
- Non-Compliance
- Reimbursements
- Case Notes
- Contact History
- Appointments

Client Summary Household Summary Employment Summary Eligibility Summary Enrollment Summary

Client Summary

Personal Information

Last Name First Name

SSN Primary Language

Date Of Birth

Contact Details

Residential Phone Cell Phone Work Phone

Conversion Phone Other Phone Email

Residential Address Line 1 Residential Address Line 2 Residential City

Client New client record added ✓

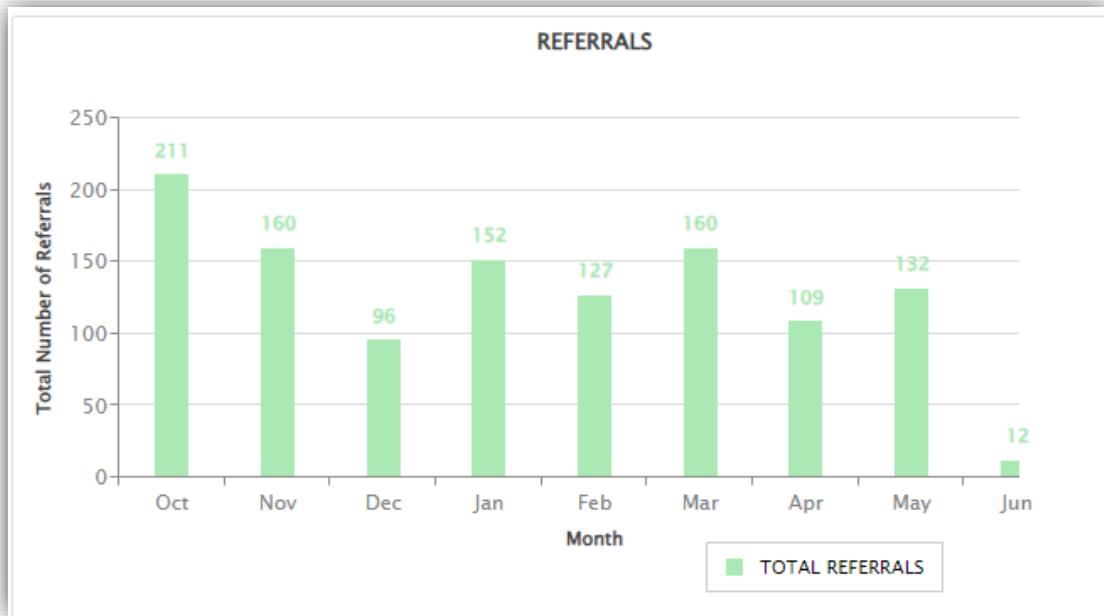
Task saved successfully Record updated successfully. ✓

Reverse referral client created successfully ✓



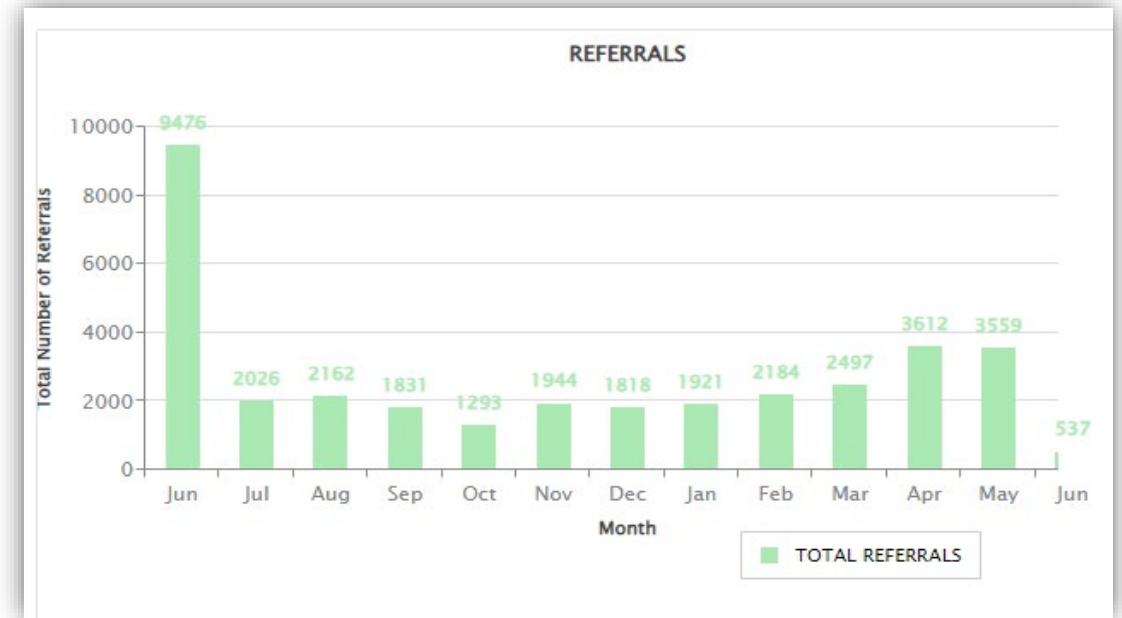
REFERRAL COUNT

- Prior to Implementation of Direct Referrals



- Reverse Referrals only
- Average of 145 New referrals per month

- After Implementation of Direct Referrals



- Direct & Reverse Referrals
- Average of 2038 new referrals per month.



Ricardo Williams, MS

SNAP Employment & Training - Manager

Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services

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ricardo.williams.dcf@la.gov I

<http://www.dcf.la.gov/page/snap-et>



Idaho Screening and Referral Process

Overview

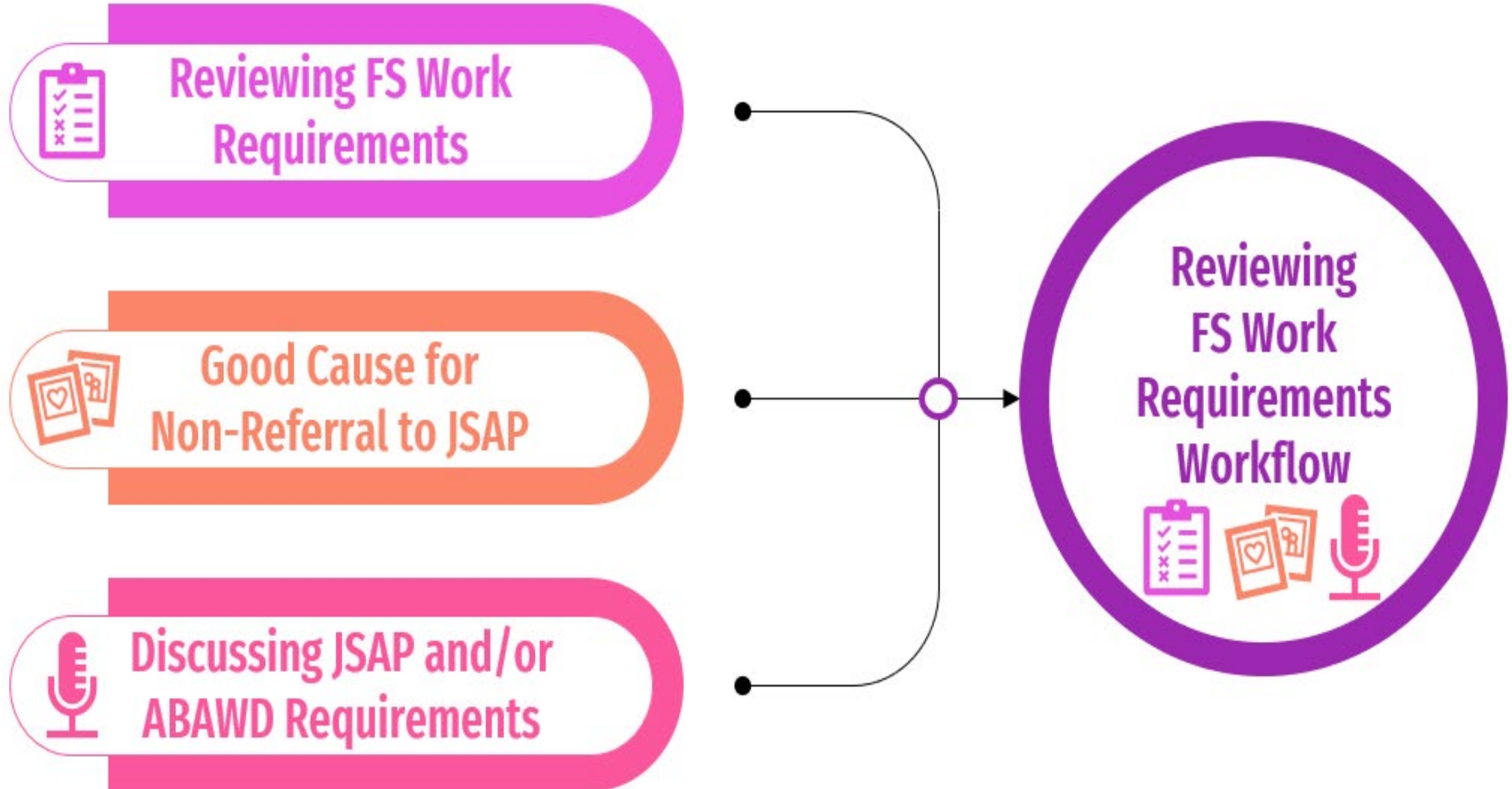
E&T Program

- Operates a 100% mandatory program
 - Legislatively mandated
- All E&T service delivery is contracted out through one provider
 - Handful of third-party partners may provide services to mandatory participants
 - Serve about 200 voluntary participants through partners using reverse referrals.
- Refer approximately 1,500 participants monthly
- Sanction for non-cooperation with program
- Approximately 8,000 unique individuals participate in the program annually

Screening and Referral Process

- Prior to Updated FNS Guidance
 - All work registrants required to participate in E&T using FNS exemptions
 - State Exemption – pregnant women in their third-trimester
- After Updated FNS Guidance
 - All work registrants required to participate in E&T using FNS exemptions
 - State Exemption – pregnant women in their third-trimester
 - **Screen for barriers to participation that can't be resolved with participant reimbursements**
- Screening occurs at application, recertification, add-a-person, reported changes

How It Works




Screening for Appropriateness

- Ask questions to determine whether a customer is ready to participate with JSAP
- Key IBES to grant good cause so a customer is not referred to the E&T Program
- Use talking points to explain work requirements to the customer
 - JSAP Mandatory
 - ABAWD – employed exempt ABAWD
 - Good cause granted

Questions to Determine Appropriateness

Good Cause for Not Participating with E&T

When a customer is JSAP Mandatory, SRSs determine whether the customer can participate with JSAP before saving EDBC to refer the customer to E&T. SRSs grant Good Cause in the following situations:

Housing Issues	^
The customer has housing issues that prevent them from looking for work or accepting a job.	
 Examples:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homeless• Couch surfing• Sleeping in a vehicle• Staying with a friend or family on a temporary basis• At risk of becoming homeless soon (i.e., currently has an eviction notice, etc.)	
Child Care Issues	v
Transportation Issues	v
Other Issue	v

ID Eligibility Process

- State Based Universal Work Force
- Application Built in Eligibility System
 - No online application for SNAP
 - Applications in-person or by phone
- Same day benefit determination model
- Screening for exemptions occurs during Interview by eligibility worker

Questions to Determine Appropriateness

When Do SRSs Review JSAP Work Requirements?

SRSs review FS work requirements with customers at:

- Application
- Re-evaluation
- Add a Person
- When a change results in an existing customer becoming mandatory

When taking any of the above actions, SRSs key all non-financial and financial information in IBES, run EDBC, and then use the [Reviewing FS Work Requirements Workflow](#) to review the JSAP Status and Work Requirements for all customers on the case.

ID Eligibility Process

- Strong processes, including avenues for feedback and questions
- Using eligibility system to detail reasons for non-referral
- Providing more detailed E&T program information for workers

Work Requirements Screen

- 1 JSAP Status
- 2 Good Cause Status
- 3 ABAWD Status
- 4 Date of Referral to E&T
- 5 JSAP & ABAWD Exemption Reasons
- 6 ABAWD Time Limit Months Used
- 7 Active JSAP/ABAWD Non-Compliances

Work Requirement Information

Save Cancel

Food Stamps Work Requirements

Name	1 JSAP Status	2 Good Cause	3 ABAWD Status	7 Compliance Status
▼ Colin Bridger (33)	Mandatory	No ▼	Exempt	Not in Compliance Failed to comply with JSAP-Instance 1 Begin Date: 05/01/2024
		4 Referral Sent: 01/01/2024	Reason: Veteran	
▼ Eloise Bridger (23)	Exempt	No ▼	Exempt	
		5 Reason: Student	Reason: Veteran	
▼ Penelope Feather (32)	Exempt	No ▼	Yes	
		Reason: Employed	6 Current Period: 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2024 Months Used: 1	
Violet Bridger (54)	Mandatory - GC Not Referred	Yes ▼	No	

Save Cancel

Contact Us

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare - SNAP E&T Program

Kristin Matthews

208-334-5553

Kristin.Matthews@dhw.idaho.gov

Jacqueline Simpkins

208-665-8851

Jacqueline.Simpkins@dhw.idaho.gov

New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

The mission of the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) is to help vulnerable New Yorkers meet their essential needs and advance economically by providing opportunities for stable employment, housing, and nutrition.

New York State's SNAP program

- SNAP provides vital food benefits to over 2.9M participants in New York State (1.7M Households).
- SNAP participation has increased by nearly 15% in the past 5 years, from 2.6M recipients in July 2019 to 2.9M recipients in **June 2024**.
- SNAP provides over \$645M in benefits monthly to eligible households.
- OTDA administered the Pandemic-EBT program from 2020 to 2024 for eligible school age children. Overall, OTDA issued more than \$6 billion in P-EBT food benefits to over 2.4 million children.
- OTDA is now operating the Summer EBT program, a permanent program that provides food benefits to eligible school-age children during the summer months when school is out and children lose access to free/reduced price school meals. In 2024, OTDA has issued more than \$200M to almost 1.7M eligible children.

New York State's E&T program

- New York State has a hybrid mandatory/voluntary SNAP E&T program.
- OTDA oversees the administration of the State's SNAP E&T program as well as work programs for Public Assistance (PA) applicants and recipients.
- Each district operates a SNAP E&T program focused on helping participants increase job skills and enter gainful employment to achieve economic stability.
- Most employment services for SNAP and PA applicants and recipients are traditionally delivered in coordination through the State's 58 social service districts, with additional services provided through contracts that OTDA holds with community-based organizations.

Overview of SNAP E&T Program

Districts must properly code the SNAP employability and ABAWD status of all SNAP applicants and recipients.

This requirement applies regardless of:

- The type of assistance being received, i.e., PA and SNAP or SNAP only.
- The individual's SNAP employability status or ABAWD status.
- Whether or not a district mandates their NPA-SNAP recipients participate in work activities.
- Whether or not the district has an ABAWD waiver.

NYC Screening and Referral

- The Human Resource Administration has 16 providers that receive SNAP E&T funding directly from HRA.
- There are 21 State funded SNAP E&T providers that also serve NYC.
- New York City has approximately 254,000 work registrants.

NYC Assessment and Referral

The HRA Benefit Access Center

1. Tier 1 – Voluntary Self Assessment

- Includes tools to identify individuals who may need reasonable accommodations.
- Starts the client's journey to developing their employment plan.

2. Tier 2 – Worker-conducted Assessment

- This assessment ensures that individuals are connected to appropriate services.
- Allows the eligibility worker to make an informed referral to the SNAP E&T program.
- The mandatory SNAP E&T population may receive referrals to needed services outside of SNAP E&T, such as domestic violence services; substance use treatment services; HIV/AIDS services; and the Wellness Comprehensive Assessment Rehabilitation and Employment (WeCARE) program (which addresses medical, physical and/or mental health limitations to employment).

NYC Assessment and Referral

3. Tier 3 – In-depth Assessment

Career Education Services

Modified Assessment, Self Initiated education or training, contextualized literacy, literacy, high school equivalency, and community services/internships

Career Compass

Full assessment and service coordination for clients ages 25+

Youth Pathways

Full assessment service coordination bridge instruction, job placement, internships retention and advancement for clients ages 18-24

WeCARE

Assignments and case management services for clients with work limitations

Career Advance

- Sector-contextualized job readiness, bridge instruction, vocational training, job placement, retention, advancement, internships (not funded with SNAP E&T), and community service placements.
- Borough-based providers will deliver employment services specific to the client's sector of interest, as well as services tailored to the following sector clusters:
 - Healthcare/Social Assistance
 - Food Service/Accommodation
 - Retail/Customer Service
 - Maintenance and Security
- Contracted providers are additionally required to provide employment services specific to a growing sector within their borough:
 - Technology
 - Construction
 - Industrial/Manufacturing
 - Transportation/Warehousing



Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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Discussion and Audience Q&A

We want to hear from you!

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