



January 2020 update

Upcoming request for proposals: The Minnesota Department of Human Services will be publishing a request for proposals this spring to contract with additional third-party SNAP Employment and Training providers. To receive emails from the department for new grant and request-for-proposal opportunities, sign up at

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNDHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNDHS_34

Provider handbook: An updated version of the SNAP Employment and Training Provider Handbook for department-contracted providers will be available in February. The updates include federal component changes such as the addition of Supervised Job Search and Supervised Job Search Training, as well as section updates based on new knowledge and information in an ever-evolving program.

County and local area site visits: Nine regional meetings were organized across the state in an effort to discuss the future of SNAP Employment and Training with counties and their providers. Funding sources, marketing options, opportunities and varying systems were discussed. The Minnesota Department of Human Services gathered a lot of information from these meetings, and staff feel that these meetings were very well received by counties and their partners. The department is looking forward to continued collaboration and would like to thank all participants, but especially the counties and providers who forwarded the invitation to relevant parties and offered up their space, organizational skills and coffee for the events.

Career Pathways providers: The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development has contracted with six Career Pathways providers, which are eligible to request 50% reimbursement when serving participants in Career Pathways-funded programs who are also SNAP recipients. The providers are:

- Lifework Planning, Mankato
- Central Lakes College META 5, Brainerd
- Community Action Center, Northfield
- Change, Inc. (formerly Guadalupe Alternative Programs), St. Paul
- CHOICES, Rochester
- Vietnamese Social Services, St. Paul.

Coordination workgroup: The SNAP Employment and Training Coordination Workgroup continues to meet the third Thursday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. For 2020, the format has changed and now rotates between provider site visits and webinars. The workgroup hopes that this change will allow outstate providers the opportunity to participate. The schedule for 2020 is as follows:

Jan. 16 – Catholic Charities Opportunity Center site visit

Feb. 20 – webinar

March 19 – site visit

April 16 – webinar

May 21 – site visit

June 18 – webinar

July 16 – site visit

Aug. 13 – webinar

Sept. 17 – site visit

Oct. 15 – webinar

Nov. 19 – TBD.

Marketing material: Minnesota Department of Human Services staff recently developed SNAP Employment and Training marketing flyers, which can be found on the department’s document repository, [eDocs](#). Titled “What SNAP Employment and Training can do for you,” the flyers are available in [English](#), [Hmong](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#) and [Vietnamese](#). The department has also been working on a marketing video that staff hopes will improve participation in SNAP Employment and Training by sharing some positive things about the program. Participant interviews, which will be used as testimonials in the video, are nearing completion. The expected release date of the video is unknown at this time.