Illinois Department of Human Services

SNAP & TANF
Employment & Training
Overview for Educators

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IDHS impacts the lives of approximately one out of three citizens in Illinois.

- We provide Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to over 800,000 households that represent almost 1.8 million recipients.
- We provide monthly Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits to over 21,000 individuals.
- We determine eligibility and manage Medicaid for over 3 million recipients at our Family and Community Resource Centers throughout the state.
- We serve approximately 116,000 children on the Child Care Assistance Program.
The Division of Family Community Services provides benefits and services to customers with the goal of helping individuals and families achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.

More than 100 Family Community Resource Centers (FCRCs) - the local offices across the state - provide a doorway to a variety of benefits, programs, and services offered directly by us, through our contracted providers, or through other community organizations.

Improves the health and well-being of families and individuals through partnerships and services that build community competence.

FCS staff work in collaboration with other community-based organizations to connect clients to services and programs that enhance their lives and families. An estimated one million customers are served through FCS each month.
FCS programs include:

- Cash Assistance Programs
  - Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
  - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
  - Refugee and Repatriate Assistance (RRA)
- Medical Assistance Programs
  - Family Health Plans
    - All Kids (children)
    - Affordable Care Act (ACA)
  - Aid to the Aged, Blind or Disabled (AABD)
  - Women, Infant and Children (WIC)
  - Funeral and Burial
  - Homeless Prevention
  - Youth Services
  - Immigrant Services
  - Early Intervention
  - Child Care
  - Home Visiting Programs
How to apply for Services

Use the Application for Benefits Eligibility (ABE) to apply for SNAP, cash or medical assistance - online, anytime.

Please refer to the ABE Customer Guide (pdf) and visit the ABE Customer Support Center.

Customers can use the ABE Manage My Case portal to manage Medical, SNAP and cash benefits - online, anytime.

- Check the status of an application
- Renew benefits Report changes - income, household members, expenses or new address
- Upload documents
- View notices and benefit details
- View and reschedule upcoming appointments
- File and manage appeals

https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=33698
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Eligibility

Most households with low income can get SNAP benefits. The rules are complex, so all of the details are not here.

The most important factors which determine the amount of, and eligibility for, SNAP benefits are:
• income and expenses;
• the number of persons who live and eat together

Customers can use the SNAP Eligibility Calculator to give an estimate of possible benefits. This is only an estimate.
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Eligibility cont.

Households without Disabled or Elderly Persons (age 60 or over) Maximum Monthly Income Allowable

For household with more than 10 persons, add $616 for each additional person. (Updated 10/1/2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Monthly Income Limit (165% FPL)</td>
<td>$1,755</td>
<td>$2,371</td>
<td>$2,987</td>
<td>$3,603</td>
<td>$4,219</td>
<td>$4,835</td>
<td>$5,451</td>
<td>$6,067</td>
<td>$6,683</td>
<td>$7,299</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age 60 & Over or Disabled Households Maximum Monthly Income Allowable

For each elderly and disabled household with more than 10 persons, add $747 for each additional person. (Updated 10/1/2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
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<th>7</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Monthly Income Limit (For those Age 60 or older OR Disabled) (200% FPL)</td>
<td>$2,127</td>
<td>$2,873</td>
<td>$3,620</td>
<td>$4,367</td>
<td>$5,113</td>
<td>$5,860</td>
<td>$6,607</td>
<td>$7,353</td>
<td>$8,100</td>
<td>$8,847</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30357
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment & Training

Key features:
• Serves a hard-to-reach population
• Encourages integration with existing workforce programs
• Available to Work Registrant SNAP recipients that are not also on TANF
• Support services help participants succeed
• Collaborative: shared third party reimbursement model

Services can be provided by:
• SNAP Eligibility Agency
• State Labor Agency
• WIOA Service Providers
• Community & Technical Colleges
• Community-Based Organizations
• Employers

SNAP E&T does not have a time limit – one can go from ABE to GED to Vocational skills training to a job and receive employment and training benefits for as long as it takes – so long as one is receiving SNAP.
To qualify for TANF, a person must:

• Be pregnant or have a child under age 19 who lives with them. A child who is 18 must be a full-time high school student. A pregnant woman (and her husband, if he lives with her) may qualify for help, even if they don’t have any other children.

• Live in Illinois. You can be homeless and still qualify.

• Be a U.S. citizen or meet certain immigration requirements.

• Develop a plan for becoming self-sufficient and follow it.

TANF **DOES** have a time limit – one can only participate for up to 60 months. A person who gets TANF may also get medical assistance and SNAP benefits.

https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30358
Key Features:

- Cash Assistance to families with incomes levels that meet eligibility requirements
- All work eligible TANF customers are required to work or participate in work-related activities, or a barrier-reduction activity
- Available to TANF recipients that are not also on SNAP
- Supportive Services

Services can be provided by:

- TANF Eligibility Agency
- State Labor Agency
- WIOA Service Providers
- Community & Technical Colleges
- Community-Based Organizations
- Employers

https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30358
SNAP & TANF E&T Visualized

TANF

- assessment of needs and barriers;
- case management and follow up;
- supportive services
- referral to treatment and other community services based on need;
- work experience;
- vocational training;
- community service;
- on-the-job training;
- education (GED/high school equivalency diploma), Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language);
- job skills training;
- supervised job search/job readiness
- job retention services

SNAP

- assessment of needs and barriers;
- case management and follow up;
- supportive services
- referral to treatment and other community services based on need;
- work experience;
- vocational training;
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EarnFare

- Community Workfare
- Earnfare

- supportive services
- referral to treatment and other community services based on need;
- work experience;
- community service;
Program components

• Job search and Job readiness training
• Basic/Foundational Skills Instruction
• ABE/GED/ESL
• Associate/Bachelor’s Degree Program
• Integrated Education and Training (“bridge programs”)
• Career/Technical/Vocational skills training
• Work-Based Learning: internships, pre-apprenticeships, On-the-Job, Transitional Jobs
• Job retention services – for 90 days

All participants get: case management, an employability assessment, and an individual employment plan
Supportive Services

Must be reasonable & necessary for E&T participation

- Transportation
- Bike/Car Repair
- Tuition/books/fees
- HSE and GED exam fees
- Supplies & tools
- Childcare
- Personal hygiene
- Clothing
- Emergency housing
- Emergency utilities
- Dental/Medical expenses
- Background check/drug screen
SNAP E&T Referrals and Eligibility Verification

Direct Referral
- State agency or local SNAP offices identifies eligible individuals to participate in SNAP E&T
- Refers to services offered by a third-party partner

Reverse Referral
- Third-party provider (e.g. CBO or community college) identifies an individual who is potentially SNAP E&T eligible
- Verifies eligibility with State/County SNAP agency and requests that the recipient be referred into SNAP E&T
- SNAP agency must make final enrollment into E&T and confirm enrollment eligibility
E&T services are provided by community-based organizations, community colleges, employers, industry associations, and for-profit trainers.

Partners provide approved E&T services to eligible SNAP/TANF E&T participants.

Partners follow 2 models:

- Pay for services upfront, get 50% reimbursed from USDA Food & Nutrition Service through the state.
- Enter into a grant agreement with the State and receive an upfront advance and monthly payments based on services rendered.
SNAP 2 Success (50/50 Program)

Where do you get the other 50%?

- It must be non-Federal dollars!
  - Exception: CDBG (Community Development Block Grants) can be used for other 50%.
- You can use state and local government funding
- Social Enterprise or earned income
- And Philanthropy likes SNAP E&T:
  - Serves low-income folks
  - Skills training and career pathways leading to self-sufficiency
  - Help fill the skills gaps in local economies
  - Guaranteed government match

https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=93875
SNAP 2 Success (50/50 Program)

Steps to a 3rd Party Partnership

Identify
- Conduct resource mapping or other systems scan to get high-level info on landscape of available non-federal funding; potential partners

Educate
- Host info sessions to provide general E&T information
- Clarify expectations of partnership

Assess
- Determine criteria to assess potential providers
- Use survey or RFQ to obtain more information on potential partners (e.g., determine capacity, MIS system, staff resources)

Contract
- Develop Statement of Work and Budget that meets FNS regulations

On-Board
- Use training sessions, peer-to-peer support, handbooks, and FNS regional support
- Train new providers on invoicing and on accessing, entering, and sharing data on MIS system

https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=93875