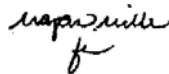


TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION LETTER

ID/No:	WD 09-09
Date:	April 3, 2009
Keyword:	SNAP E&T
Effective:	Immediately

To: Local Workforce Development Board Executive Directors
Commission Executive Offices
Integrated Service Area Managers



From: Laurence M. Jones, Director, Workforce Development Division

Subject: **Changing the Name of Food Stamp Employment and Training to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training**

PURPOSE:

To provide Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with information and guidance on the name change from Food Stamp Employment and Training (FSE&T) to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAP E&T).

BACKGROUND:

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, enacted June 18, 2008, changed the name of the federal Food Stamp Program to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), which administers the federal Food Stamp Program, changed the name of the state food stamp program to SNAP, effective April 1, 2009. HHSC's Texas Works Bulletin #09-16 provides information on the SNAP name change and can be accessed at

http://www.dads.state.tx.us/handbooks/texasworks_bulletins/03-09-09.pdf.

To align with the federal and state name changes, the Texas Workforce Commission (Commission) will begin the gradual replacement of all references to the Food Stamp Program with SNAP, and FSE&T with SNAP E&T, in the following:

- The Workforce Information System of Texas (TWIST) (to be completed by August 31, 2009)
- Chapter 813 and other Commission rules, as appropriate
- Commission Web site
- Agency-Board agreements
- Forms

- Other written materials

PROCEDURES:

Boards must be aware of the following name changes:

NLF

- The federal and state Food Stamp Program is now SNAP.
- FSE&T is now SNAP E&T.

Effective immediately, Boards must:

NLF

- inform Board and Texas Workforce Center staff of the new name changes; and
- ensure that, to assist with the transition, Texas Workforce Center staff refers to SNAP and SNAP E&T when communicating with SNAP recipients.

Additionally, no later than August 31, 2009, Boards must incorporate the new name changes into the following:

NLF

- Locally developed forms
- Customized FSE&T outreach letters
- Posters, flyers, brochures, or other materials containing the food stamp or FSE&T name.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training: A Comprehensive Guide, available on the Commission Web site at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/boards/guides/guides.html>, will be updated to reflect these changes.

INQUIRIES:

Direct inquiries regarding this WD Letter to wfpolicy.clarifications@twc.state.tx.us.

RESCISSIONS:

None

REFERENCE:

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008
The Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. §2013
Texas Works Bulletin #09-16

FLEXIBILITY RATINGS:

No Local Flexibility (NLF): This rating indicates that Boards must comply with the federal and state laws, rules, policies, and required procedures set forth in this WD Letter and have no local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to comply. All information with an NLF rating is indicated by “must” or “shall.”

Local Flexibility (LF): This rating indicates that Boards have local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to implement guidance or recommended practices set forth in this WD Letter. All information with an LF rating is indicated by “may” or “recommend.”