



Food and
Nutrition
Service

1320 Braddock Place
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DATE: June 17, 2021

SUBJECT: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Nutrition Education
(SNAP-Ed) National Electronic Reporting System

TO: All SNAP State Agencies
All Regions

FNS recognizes the importance of nutrition security as a vital component to strengthen local communities and ensure SNAP participants have opportunities to live healthy and active lifestyles. SNAP-Ed programs offer activities that address the specific needs of communities. State and implementing agencies reach our neighbors in need in a variety of ways, be that in public health approaches that increase access to nutritious food and physical activity, culturally appropriate direct education that helps families determine how they can fit healthy habits into their daily lives, or social marketing campaigns that show that all of us have the potential to make the healthy choice the easy choice with the right support.

In order to take the next step forward, while meeting requirements of the 2018 Farm Bill, FNS is using funding provided by Congress in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 to provide all States with a robust electronic reporting system for required annual planning and data reporting. FNS has purchased a national license to use Kansas State University's Program Evaluation and Reporting System (PEARS) for SNAP-Ed data collecting and reporting going forward.

FNS recognizes that allocations vary by State and therefore, so does State capacity to purchase sophisticated electronic reporting systems for SNAP-Ed data needs. With national funding, FNS is offering PEARS to all States and implementing agencies, regardless of funding levels. Kansas State University's PEARS team will work collaboratively with FNS to roll out the system as well as a new annual plan and report forms currently under development. States and implementing agencies that prefer other reporting systems are welcome to use those systems for non-Federal data reporting needs. No changes to annual plans or reports are anticipated through FY 2022, and States should submit annual plans, reports, and Education and Administrative Reporting System (EARS) data as they have in previous years. FNS will communicate next steps and updates to timelines as soon as these become available. State agencies with questions should contact their respective Regional Office representatives.

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Thank you to SNAP State agencies for their patience and flexibility as we move forward with updating SNAP-Ed data reporting practices.

Jessica Shahin
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Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program