

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 1948

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

Senator ROBERT M. GORDON

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Assemblyman JAMEL C. HOLLEY

District 20 (Union)

Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ

District 19 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

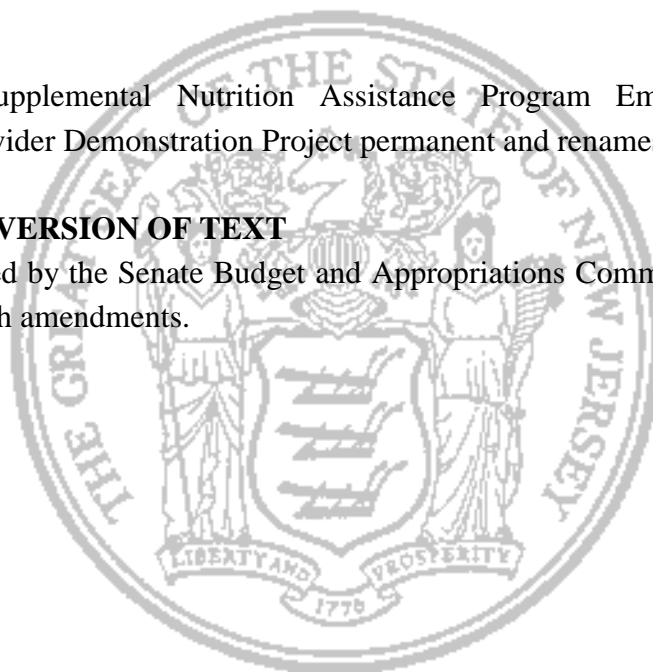
Senator Ruiz, Assemblywomen Timberlake and Lampitt

SYNOPSIS

Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and renames program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on March 18, 2019, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/28/2019)

1 AN ACT concerning the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
2 Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project and
3 amending P.L.2013, c.45.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 1. **[This act]** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) shall be known
11 and may be cited as the "New Jersey SNAP Employment and
12 Training Provider **[Demonstration]** ¹50/50 Match¹ Project Act."
13 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.1)

14
15 2. Section 2 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-96) is amended to read
16 as follows:

17 2. As used in **[this act]** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.):

18 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Human Services.

19 **["Demonstration project participant"** means an eligible
20 participant who elects to participate in the demonstration project
21 established pursuant to this act.]

22 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

23 "Eligible participant" means a SNAP recipient who qualifies for
24 participation in NJ SNAP ETP as a voluntary SNAP ETP
25 participant or as a mandatory SNAP ETP participant.

26 "Mandatory SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ
27 SNAP ETP who, as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits: is
28 required to register for work; is required to fulfill SNAP
29 employment and training requirements; and has not been exempted
30 from placement in an NJ SNAP ETP component.

31 "New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
32 Employment and Training Provider **[Demonstration]** ¹50/50
33 Match¹ Project" or "**[demonstration]** project" means the
34 **[demonstration]** project established pursuant to **[this act]**
35 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

36 "NJ SNAP ETP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
37 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program that assists
38 SNAP recipients with acquiring the skills, training, work, or
39 experience necessary to obtain regular employment, as established
40 under the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
41 and as described in the most recent State Employment and Training
42 Plan submitted to the Food and Nutrition Service in the United
43 States Department of Agriculture.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted March 18, 2019.

1 "Non-federal resources" means any of the following resources,
2 provided that the resources are not from a federal source or used as
3 a match for other federal funding purposes:

4 (1) cash donations from private firms, charitable foundations, or
5 non-profit organizations received by partnering providers;

6 (2) local tax levy funds received by partnering providers;

7 (3) certain eligible in-kind contributions received by partnering
8 providers that are public entities, including property or services
9 which support the provider's NJ SNAP ETP activities and which are
10 contributed by non-federal public entities without charge to the
11 partnering provider; or

12 (4) any other non-federal resources that are currently allowed by
13 the federal government.

14 "Partnering provider" means a qualifying agency selected to
15 participate in the **【demonstration】** project.

16 "Project participant" means an eligible participant who elects to
17 participate in the project established pursuant to P.L.2013, c.45
18 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

19 "Qualifying agency" means a local government, non-profit
20 entity, institution of higher education, foundation, or other eligible
21 community-based organization that qualifies for allowable federal
22 SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food and
23 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.) by
24 providing allowable services that help SNAP recipients acquire the
25 skills, training, work, or experience necessary to obtain regular
26 employment. A qualifying agency may also include a consortium
27 of organizations.

28 "Service area" means the geographic area of the State in which a
29 partnering provider provides NJ SNAP ETP services under the
30 **【demonstration】** project established pursuant to **【this act】**
31 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

32 "SNAP" means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition
33 Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal "Food and
34 Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).

35 "SNAP ETP" means the federal Supplemental Nutrition
36 Assistance Program Employment and Training Program
37 administered by the Food and Nutrition Service in the United States
38 Department of Agriculture and established pursuant to the federal
39 "Food and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011
40 et seq.) and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

41 "Voluntary SNAP ETP participant" means a participant in NJ
42 SNAP ETP who: is exempt from the work registration and
43 employment and training requirements associated with receiving
44 SNAP benefits; or who is not exempt from work registration but
45 who has been exempted from SNAP employment and training
46 requirements or otherwise exempted from placement in an NJ
47 SNAP ETP component.

48 "Work First New Jersey TANF benefits" means Temporary
49 Assistance for Needy Families benefits provided under the Work

1 First New Jersey program established pursuant to P.L.1997, c.38
2 (C.44:10-55 et seq.) in accordance with the federal "Personal
3 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996,"
4 Pub.L.104-193 (42 U.S.C. s.601 et seq.).
5 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.2)

6
7 3. Section 3 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-97) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 3. a. The Department of Human Services shall establish the
10 New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
11 Employment and Training Provider **【Demonstration】** ¹50/50
12 Match¹ Project under which the department shall ¹: (1) provide and
13 enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of
14 Labor and Workforce Development by which the Department of
15 Labor and Workforce Development shall implement, administer,
16 and operate the project and NJ SNAP ETP activities including,
17 issuing requests for proposals, selecting partnering providers,
18 obtaining activity reports from providers, and issuing payment to
19 providers; and (2)¹ form partnerships with qualifying agencies to
20 provide services to eligible participants under NJ SNAP ETP and
21 receive federal reimbursements for those services. ¹**【The**
22 **department shall consult with the Department of Labor and**
23 **Workforce Development and the county welfare agencies with**
24 **respect to the establishment and oversight of the 【demonstration】**
25 **project.】** The memorandum of understanding executed by the
26 departments shall define how the departments shall coordinate their
27 efforts, the roles and expectations of each, and shall detail the
28 process by which funds for the support of the project and other NJ
29 SNAP ETP activities shall be transferred from the department to the
30 Department of Labor and Workforce Development.¹

31 b. Applicants for participation as partnering providers in the
32 **【demonstration】** project shall be qualifying agencies whose
33 employment and training activities qualify for reimbursement under
34 the federal SNAP ETP program. Partnering providers in the
35 **【demonstration】** project shall be selected according to the process
36 and criteria specified in **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-
37 95 et seq.).
38 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.3)

39
40 4. Section 4 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) is amended to read
41 as follows:

42 4. a. The commissioner shall issue a request for proposals from
43 qualifying agencies to participate in the **【demonstration】** project no
44 later than 60 days following the effective date of **【this act】**
45 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

46 b. (1) The department shall select no fewer than three
47 partnering providers, from among qualifying agencies submitting
48 proposals, to participate in the **【demonstration】** project ¹**【for 【a】 an**

1 initial period of four years¹. Partnering providers shall provide
2 services under NJ SNAP ETP to eligible participants and be eligible
3 to receive federal reimbursements for those services pursuant to the
4 conditions of **[this act]** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).

5 (2) ¹**[Subject to the availability of federal funds, the**
6 **commissioner]** The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
7 Development¹ shall extend the program beyond the initial four year
8 period. The ¹**[commissioner]** Commissioner of Labor and
9 Workforce Development¹ shall ¹, subject to the availability of
10 federal funds, annually¹ issue a new request for proposals and
11 ¹**[shall select]** maintain the participation of¹ no fewer than three
12 partnering providers, from among qualifying agencies submitting
13 proposals, to participate in the project for each subsequent
14 ¹**[contract period]** year¹.

15 c. Each qualifying agency shall be evaluated for participation as
16 a partnering provider in the **[demonstration]** project based on the
17 agency's capacity to: serve eligible participants under NJ SNAP
18 ETP; identify and utilize non-federal resources qualifying for
19 federal SNAP ETP reimbursements pursuant to the federal "Food
20 and Nutrition Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et
21 seq.); present and implement a coherent program plan for NJ SNAP
22 ETP activities, as described in subsection d. of this section; and
23 perform effectively each of the functions specified in section 6 of
24 **[this act]** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100).

25 d. Each qualifying agency's proposal shall include a program
26 plan describing how the agency's activities under the
27 **[demonstration]** project would fulfill the purposes of NJ SNAP
28 ETP. The program plan shall include, but not be limited to, the
29 following information:

30 (1) the program goals and objectives, including the agency's
31 priorities for serving eligible participants in the State;

32 (2) the program design, including: strategies for targeting and
33 recruiting eligible participants; educational skills and training
34 activities; work-related activities; job preparation, placement, and
35 retention activities; strategies for coordinating with the county
36 welfare agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce
37 Development; and strategies for providing support services,
38 including case management, early intervention, career counseling,
39 and referrals to additional programs and services;

40 (3) the program budget, including the overall resources to be
41 used to support the agency's NJ SNAP ETP activities, the specific
42 non-federal resources to be used to generate federal SNAP ETP
43 reimbursements, and the intended utilization of anticipated federal
44 SNAP ETP reimbursements;

45 (4) the extent to which community partners, including
46 subcontractors, will be involved in the agency's activities; and

1 (5) the agency's plans for performing each of the functions
2 specified in section 6 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100).

3 e. In selecting partnering providers for participation in the
4 **【demonstration】** project, the ¹**【department】** Department of Labor
5 and Workforce Development¹ shall prioritize partnering providers
6 that would:

7 (1) serve SNAP recipients with significant barriers to
8 employment, including, but not limited to: able-bodied adults
9 without dependents required to participate in employment and
10 training programs as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits;
11 individuals with a history of substance abuse or other work
12 limitations; ex-offenders; individuals with low literacy or limited
13 English proficiency; veterans who are not eligible for other
14 employment and training programs; and persons who are 16 through
15 24 years of age;

16 (2) serve unemployed or underemployed parents, including non-
17 custodial parents and parents who have exceeded their Work First
18 New Jersey TANF 60-month lifetime limit on cash assistance;

19 (3) provide training in both vocational and technical skills, as
20 well as "soft skills," including, but not limited to: workplace
21 preparation training, teamwork, problem solving, time management,
22 and conflict resolution;

23 (4) provide training that results in marketable credentials and
24 that prepares participants for employment or reemployment in
25 industries with projections of growth ¹**【**, as the department
26 identifies those industries in collaboration with the Department of
27 Labor and Workforce Development**】**¹;

28 (5) conduct job development activities and identify how job
29 opportunities will be secured to maximize SNAP recipients'
30 permanent placement in employment providing compensation at the
31 level of a living wage and opportunities for wage progression; and

32 (6) demonstrate a proven history of successful job placement
33 and retention.

34 f. The ¹**【department】** Department of Labor and Workforce
35 Development¹ may select partnering providers that would provide
36 NJ SNAP ETP services within any service area including, but not
37 limited to: the entire State; one or more regions encompassing
38 several counties; or a single county.

39 g. Upon selection of a partnering provider, the ¹**【department】**
40 Department of Labor and Workforce Development¹ shall negotiate
41 and execute a memorandum of understanding with the partnering
42 provider, the ¹**【Department of Labor and Workforce Development】**
43 department¹, and county welfare agencies, as applicable. The
44 memorandum of understanding shall define the extent and degree of
45 assistance ¹and delineate the respective expectations, duties, and
46 relations¹ among the department, the Department of Labor and
47 Workforce Development, the county welfare agencies, and the
48 partnering provider.

1 h. The ¹**Commissioner** Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
2 Development¹ shall establish standards of performance for
3 partnering providers conducting **demonstration** project activities
4 pursuant to **this act** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.),
5 including, but not limited to, standards for performing the
6 programmatic functions and financial functions required pursuant to
7 section 6 of **this act** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100). The
8 memorandum of understanding negotiated and executed pursuant to
9 subsection g. of this section shall include a performance-based
10 system for distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements to each
11 partnering provider based upon the partnering provider's
12 achievement of the standards of performance.

13 i. Upon finding that a partnering provider has not conducted its
14 **demonstration** project activities in accordance with the standards
15 of performance established in subsection h. of this section or that a
16 partnering provider has otherwise failed to comply with the
17 requirements of **this act** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the
18 ¹**Commissioner** Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
19 Development¹ may: take such action as is necessary to correct the
20 deficiencies of the provider; and terminate the partnering provider's
21 participation in the **demonstration** project if the provider fails to
22 take remedial action.

23 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.4)

24

25 5. Section 5 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-99) is amended to read
26 as follows:

27 5. a. A county welfare agency shall collaborate with all
28 partnering providers whose service areas include the county to:
29 inform all eligible participants, upon determination of their
30 eligibility for SNAP benefits, of all **demonstration** project
31 activities operating within the county; permit all eligible
32 participants to participate in any **demonstration** project activities
33 available within the county; and assist eligible participants with
34 contacting partnering providers operating **demonstration** project
35 activities. A county welfare agency may advise an eligible
36 participant as to the applicability and appropriateness of specific
37 **demonstration** activities to the eligible participant's case, but the
38 county welfare agency shall not assign an eligible participant to
39 **demonstration** project activities without the eligible participant's
40 consent.

41 b. A partnering provider shall collaborate with all county
42 welfare agencies within the provider's service area to: inform all
43 eligible participants, upon determination of their eligibility for
44 SNAP benefits, of the availability of **demonstration** project
45 services; and assist the county welfare agencies with identifying
46 those eligible participants for whom participation in the partnering

1 provider's NJ SNAP ETP activities would be most applicable and
2 appropriate.

3 c. A partnering provider shall serve all eligible participants
4 residing within the provider's service area who elect to participate
5 in the provider's **【demonstration】** project activities. Except as
6 provided in this section, a partnering provider shall not deny or
7 terminate the participation of any **【demonstration】** project
8 participant.

9 d. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants may elect, for the purpose
10 of fulfilling their SNAP employment and training requirements, to
11 participate in a partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project
12 activities. The participation of a mandatory SNAP ETP participant
13 in a partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project activities shall
14 constitute placement in an NJ SNAP ETP component and shall
15 fulfill SNAP employment and training requirements for the duration
16 of the mandatory SNAP ETP participant's participation. A county
17 welfare agency shall assign a mandatory SNAP ETP participant
18 who does not elect to participate in any **【demonstration】** project
19 activities to another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the
20 **【demonstration】** project, as available.

21 e. Mandatory SNAP ETP participants who elect to participate in
22 **【demonstration】** project activities but who subsequently do not
23 cooperate with, or participate in, those activities shall not be subject
24 to penalties for noncompliance with SNAP employment and
25 training requirements during their participation in the
26 **【demonstration】** project. Partnering providers shall terminate the
27 **【demonstration】** project participation of any non-cooperating or
28 non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP participants and refer the
29 non-cooperating or non-participating mandatory SNAP ETP
30 participants to the applicable county welfare agency. The applicable
31 county welfare agency shall assign the non-cooperating or non-
32 participating mandatory SNAP ETP participant to another NJ SNAP
33 ETP component outside of the **【demonstration】** project, as
34 available.

35 f. Nothing in **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.)
36 shall be construed to limit the authority of the county welfare
37 agencies or the department to impose penalties for noncompliance
38 with SNAP employment and training requirements on mandatory
39 SNAP ETP participants who: are terminated from participation in
40 **【demonstration】** project activities due to non-cooperation or non-
41 participation; and subsequently refuse or fail to comply with SNAP
42 employment and training requirements upon placement within
43 another NJ SNAP ETP component outside of the **【demonstration】**
44 project.

45 g. A partnering provider may deny or terminate the participation
46 of any **【demonstration】** project participant who is not appropriately
47 matched to the partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project

1 activities upon obtaining approval from the applicable county
2 welfare agency.

3 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.5)

4
5 6. Section 6 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-100) is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 6. a. Each partnering provider shall be required to perform the
8 following programmatic functions and to maintain sufficient
9 capacity to perform these functions effectively:

10 (1) assist **【demonstration】** project participants with obtaining
11 and retaining employment;

12 (2) provide **【demonstration】** project participants with
13 appropriate NJ SNAP ETP services and participant reimbursements
14 that fulfill the purposes of NJ SNAP ETP and that qualify for
15 federal SNAP ETP reimbursements. These services and participant
16 reimbursements may include, but are not limited to: job search and
17 placement services; job readiness assistance; education or training
18 that improves basic skills and general employability; specific job
19 skills training or vocational education; work experience that
20 improves the employability of **【demonstration】** project participants;
21 subsidized employment; workfare; self-employment training;
22 services related to the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998,
23 Pub.L.105-220 (29 U.S.C. s.2801 et seq.); job retention services; or
24 reimbursements for **【demonstration】** project participant expenses,
25 including dependent care costs, transportation expenses, books or
26 training manuals, fees, uniforms, equipment and tools required for
27 employment, or personal safety items required for program
28 participation;

29 (3) assess and place **【demonstration】** project participants into
30 appropriate NJ SNAP ETP services, as defined in paragraph (2) of
31 this subsection;

32 (4) provide **【demonstration】** project participants with support
33 services, including case management, early intervention, career
34 counseling, and referrals to additional programs and services;

35 (5) verify whether potential **【demonstration】** project
36 participants are receiving SNAP benefits and make referrals, as
37 appropriate, to assist potential **【demonstration】** project participants
38 with applying for SNAP benefits;

39 (6) collaborate with county welfare agencies to develop
40 processes and materials that: inform eligible participants regarding
41 **【demonstration】** project activities within each county, in
42 accordance with each partnering provider's service area; facilitate
43 eligible participants' communications with partnering providers
44 regarding participation in **【demonstration】** project activities; and
45 assist eligible participants with rendering decisions regarding their
46 participation in **【demonstration】** project activities;

47 (7) assist **【demonstration】** project participants with continuing
48 to meet administrative requirements, work requirements,

- 1 employment and training requirements, and other requirements for
2 maintaining SNAP eligibility;
- 3 (8) coordinate with the department and county welfare agencies
4 on a monthly basis to verify that **【demonstration】** project
5 participants are receiving SNAP benefits and are not receiving
6 Work First New Jersey TANF benefits;
- 7 (9) coordinate with the county welfare agencies and the
8 department to distinguish mandatory SNAP ETP participants from
9 voluntary SNAP ETP participants;
- 10 (10) provide uninterrupted NJ SNAP ETP services and
11 participant reimbursements to mandatory SNAP ETP participants
12 electing to participate in the **【demonstration】** project who become
13 voluntary SNAP ETP participants and to voluntary SNAP ETP
14 participants electing to participate in the **【demonstration】** project
15 who become mandatory SNAP ETP participants, subject to the
16 provisions for terminating **【demonstration】** project participation
17 pursuant to section 5 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-99);
- 18 (11) maintain program records and report to the department
19 ¹and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development¹ the
20 following monthly information for each claimed NJ SNAP ETP
21 participant: program, participant name, participant Social Security
22 number, services and reimbursements received, and weekly hours;
- 23 (12) prepare and submit to the department invoice and
24 certification letters each quarter for the total non-federal resources
25 and program expenditures qualifying for federal SNAP ETP
26 reimbursements for the quarter;
- 27 (13) monitor **【demonstration】** project participants and
28 subcontractors and provide detailed reports of participants,
29 activities, and outcomes to the ¹ **【department】** Department of Labor
30 and Workforce Development¹ on a regular basis;
- 31 (14) devote sufficient staff time and expertise to fulfill NJ
32 SNAP ETP administrative and reporting requirements;
- 33 (15) collaborate with the department ¹and the Department of
34 Labor and Workforce Development¹ to ensure that federal SNAP
35 ETP reimbursements received under the **【demonstration】** program
36 are expended in accordance with all applicable federal laws and
37 regulations; and
- 38 (16) report to the department ¹and the Department of Labor
39 and Workforce Development¹ and county welfare agencies on a
40 monthly basis the identities of any mandatory SNAP ETP
41 participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in,
42 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP
43 participants who elect to participate in the **【demonstration】** project.
- 44 b. Each partnering provider shall be required to perform the
45 following financial functions and to maintain sufficient capacity to
46 perform the functions effectively:

- 1 (1) maintain cash flow necessary to manage the delay from
- 2 program outlays to SNAP ETP reimbursements;
- 3 (2) manage federal grants, track expenditures, and ensure that
- 4 non-federal resources and program expenditures qualify for federal
- 5 SNAP ETP reimbursements;
- 6 (3) perform cost allocation using multiple funds;
- 7 (4) track staff time devoted to NJ SNAP ETP activities under
- 8 this **【demonstration】** project; and
- 9 (5) maintain records for State audits.

10 c. Partnering providers may establish agreements with
11 subcontracting organizations to support their NJ SNAP ETP
12 activities under this **【demonstration】** project.

13 d. The department shall consider educational activities serving
14 eligible participants at community colleges as qualifying for federal
15 SNAP ETP reimbursements to the greatest extent allowable under
16 federal laws and regulations. In accordance with section 273.5 of
17 title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, individuals enrolled at least
18 half-time in an institution of higher education who are assigned to,
19 or placed in, an NJ SNAP ETP educational activity, including
20 individuals who voluntarily participate in NJ SNAP ETP activities
21 or who otherwise make self-initiated placements, and who meet all
22 SNAP eligibility requirements shall be determined eligible for
23 SNAP benefits and shall be eligible for participation in the
24 **【demonstration】** project.

25 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.6)

26
27 7. Section 7 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-101) is amended to read
28 as follows:

29 7. a. The county welfare agencies, under the oversight of the
30 department, shall assist partnering providers by:

31 (1) collaborating with partnering providers, the department, and
32 the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to conduct
33 outreach to potential **【demonstration】** project participants and to
34 refer potential **【demonstration】** project participants to the
35 partnering providers;

36 (2) collaborating with partnering providers to develop processes
37 and materials that inform eligible participants regarding: the
38 availability of **【demonstration】** project activities within each
39 county, in accordance with each partnering provider's service area;
40 the option for eligible participants to participate in **【demonstration】**
41 project activities; the applicability and appropriateness of specific
42 **【demonstration】** activities to the eligible participant's case; and the
43 means by which eligible participants may contact partnering
44 providers regarding **【demonstration】** project participation;

45 (3) determining potential **【demonstration】** project participants'
46 SNAP eligibility and providing the results of eligibility
47 determinations to partnering providers;

1 (4) developing and implementing a process to verify that
2 potential **【demonstration】** project participants are receiving SNAP
3 benefits and not receiving Work First New Jersey TANF benefits
4 and ensuring that this verification process adheres to all applicable
5 federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure
6 of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP
7 or TANF benefits;

8 (5) determining each potential **【demonstration】** project
9 participant's status as a voluntary SNAP ETP participant or a
10 mandatory SNAP ETP participant, in coordination with partnering
11 providers;

12 (6) confirming each **【demonstration】** project participant's SNAP
13 eligibility on a monthly basis; and

14 (7) collaborating with partnering providers to develop criteria
15 and procedures for terminating the participation of eligible
16 participants in a partnering provider's **【demonstration】** project
17 activities including, but not limited to: eligible participants who are
18 not appropriately matched to a partnering provider's
19 **【demonstration】** project activities; and any mandatory SNAP ETP
20 participants who are not cooperating with, or participating in,
21 assigned services or work, as applicable to mandatory SNAP ETP
22 participants who elect to participate in the **【demonstration】** project.

23 b. The department shall, in consultation with the county welfare
24 agencies and the Department of Labor and Workforce
25 Development:

26 (1) assist partnering providers with understanding the
27 administrative requirements, work requirements, employment and
28 training requirements, and other requirements for **【demonstration】**
29 project participants to maintain SNAP eligibility;

30 (2) assist partnering providers with understanding the
31 requirements for non-federal resources and program expenditures to
32 generate federal SNAP ETP reimbursements;

33 (3) submit requests for federal SNAP ETP reimbursements and
34 fulfill all reporting and other SNAP ETP administrative
35 responsibilities required by the Food and Nutrition Service in the
36 United States Department of Agriculture;

37 (4) distribute federal SNAP ETP reimbursements received by
38 the State under this **【demonstration】** project to the partnering
39 providers whose non-federal resources and program expenditures
40 generated the federal reimbursements, in accordance with the
41 provisions of section 8 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102);

42 (5) collect data concerning partnering providers and
43 **【demonstration】** project participants, activities, and outcomes; and

44 (6) audit partnering providers on a routine basis to ensure fiscal
45 and program integrity.

46 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.7)

1 8. Section 8 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-102) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 8. a. The department shall submit a revised State Employment
4 and Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service in the United
5 States Department of Agriculture, in accordance with section 273.7
6 (c) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, in order to expand NJ
7 SNAP ETP to include **【demonstration】** project partnerships with
8 qualifying agencies. The revised State Employment and Training
9 Plan shall define the services to be provided under NJ SNAP ETP,
10 including, but not limited to, the **【demonstration】** project services
11 provided pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.).
12 The department shall submit the revised State Employment and
13 Training Plan to the Food and Nutrition Service as soon as
14 practicable but no later than the first day of the seventh month next
15 following the effective date of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-
16 95 et seq.).

17 b. The commissioner shall take such additional steps as may be
18 necessary to secure approval from the Food and Nutrition Service in
19 the United States Department of Agriculture for this
20 **【demonstration】** project and to ensure that the State and partnering
21 providers are in compliance with all applicable provisions of federal
22 and State laws and regulations.

23 c. The department may reserve up to five percent of the federal
24 SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct result of the
25 activities of the partnering providers and received by the State
26 pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.) for
27 operating expenses and staff directly related to the administration,
28 oversight, and evaluation of this **【demonstration】** project. The
29 remaining federal SNAP ETP reimbursements generated as a direct
30 result of the activities of the partnering providers and received by
31 the State pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.)
32 shall be distributed to the partnering providers whose expenditures
33 generated the federal SNAP ETP reimbursements on a pro-rata
34 basis and in accordance with the performance-based system for
35 distributing federal SNAP ETP reimbursements established
36 pursuant to section 4 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98).
37 Within the request for proposals issued pursuant to **【this act】**
38 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), the department shall describe
39 the performance-based system for distributing federal SNAP ETP
40 reimbursements and indicate the net percentage of federal SNAP
41 ETP reimbursements that shall be distributed to partnering
42 providers.

43 d. The department shall apply for any additional federal funds
44 which may be available to implement the provisions of **【this act】**
45 P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-95 et seq.), including, but not limited to,
46 any unobligated, unexpended federal SNAP ETP funds originally
47 allocated to other state agencies and available for reallocation
48 pursuant to section 273.7 (d) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations.

1 e. The ¹**【commissioner】** Commissioner of Labor and
2 Workforce Development¹ may solicit, receive, and accept grants,
3 funds, or anything of value from any public or private entity and
4 receive and accept contributions of money, property, labor, or any
5 other thing of value from any legitimate source to support the
6 **【demonstration】** project, provided that the commissioner does not
7 have reason to believe that the entity may have a vested interest in
8 the decisions of the commissioner or the department concerning the
9 selection of specific partnering providers.

10 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.8)

11
12 9. Section 9 of P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-103) is amended to read
13 as follows:

14 9. The ¹**【commissioner】** Commissioner of Labor and Workforce
15 Development¹ shall issue a report no later than six months
16 following the effective date of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-
17 95 et seq.), and annually thereafter no later than September 30 of
18 each year, to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991,
19 c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature summarizing the
20 participants, activities, and outcomes of the **【demonstration】**
21 project. The initial report under this section shall include, but not
22 be limited to, a summary of the request for proposals issued
23 pursuant to section 4 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98).
24 Subsequent reports under this section shall include, but not be
25 limited to, the identities of the partnering providers selected
26 pursuant to section 4 of **【this act】** P.L.2013, c.45 (C.44:10-98) and
27 a summary of **【demonstration】** project participant demographics,
28 activities, and outcomes for each partnering provider. The reports
29 issued pursuant to this section shall not disclose the identities of
30 any SNAP applicants or recipients and shall adhere to all applicable
31 federal laws and regulations restricting the unauthorized disclosure
32 of information concerning applicants for, and recipients of, SNAP
33 benefits.

34 (cf: P.L.2013, c.45, s.9)

35
36 10. This act shall take effect immediately.