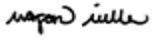


TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION LETTER

ID/No:	WD 05-15
Date:	January 22, 2015
Keyword:	Fiscal-Allocations; SNAP E&T
Effective:	Immediately

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


From: Reagan Miller, Director, Workforce Development Division

Subject: **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training: Federal Fiscal Year 2015 Supplemental Allocations for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents**

PURPOSE:

To provide Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with information on supplemental allocations of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) funds for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) (ABAWD-only funds).

BACKGROUND:

On November 3, 2014, the US Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service approved the FFY 2015 federal grant allocation for supplemental SNAP E&T ABAWD-only funds. The allocation provides SNAP E&T funds exclusively to ABAWDs for education, training, workfare, and other workforce services. The amount allocated to Texas is \$9,694,915. Allocation information is available at http://www.twc.state.tx.us/business/fmgc/fin_info.html. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) will issue SNAP E&T ABAWD-only contracts to each local workforce development area.

For FFY 2015, the State of Texas is complying with the commitment to offer a qualifying activity to every ABAWD applicant or recipient (not waived or exempted) who is in the last month of the three-month period of eligibility, allowing the state to receive a portion of the \$20 million used to reimburse state agencies for costs incurred in serving ABAWDs. The portion of the \$20 million Texas will receive for FFY 2015 makes it possible for TWC to cover the costs of providing work opportunities to each ABAWD in a full-service county.

In previous years, Texas used its portion of the \$20 million coupled with its 100 percent federal allocation to offset costs of serving ABAWDs. Use of the

ABAWD funding, the 100 percent federal allocation, and additional SNAP funding to serve ABAWDs limited Texas' ability to fund services to other mandatory work registrants and exempt recipients who voluntarily participated in SNAP E&T. With increased funding in FFY 2015, Texas will now be able to provide SNAP E&T services to these individuals.

PROCEDURES:

Boards must use the supplemental allocation of FFY 2015 SNAP E&T ABAWD-only funds to provide qualifying education, training, or workfare activities to all ABAWDs residing in full-service SNAP E&T counties.

NLF

Until federal SNAP ABAWD funding is received, Boards may report allowable ABAWD expenses under the SNAP ABAWD or the SNAP E&T contract; however, Boards will not be able to draw cash for the SNAP ABAWD contract until federal funding is received.

LF

Once federal funding is available, Boards must report all FFY 2015 ABAWD expenditures under the SNAP ABAWD contract.

NLF

Boards must be aware that the additional funding to serve ABAWDs should result in an increase in the number of General Population SNAP E&T customers outreached and served.

NLF

INQUIRIES:

Direct inquiries regarding this WD Letter to Chris Nelson, Director of Financial Operations, at (512) 463-1829 or Fiscal.TA@twc.state.tx.us.

RESCISSIONS:

None

REFERENCE:

Texas Workforce Commission General Administration Rules: 40 TAC §800.54

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.”