



Family Assistance Letter #106
June 1, 2011

TO: Directors, County Departments of Job and Family Services

FROM: Trudie J. Bormann, Deputy
Family Assistance, Office of Families and Children

SUBJECT: Food Assistance Employment and Training – Education Component

The United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) issued recent guidance regarding the education component of the Food Assistance Employment and Training Program. The guidance states in order for an education component to be approved for the Food Assistance Employment and Training Program there must be a direct link between the degree or certificate program and employment.

As a result of this guidance the Office of Families and Children is required to provide FNS with a list of approved courses, degrees and certificate programs in the State's Federal Fiscal Year 2012 Food Assistance Employment and Training Plan for it to be approved. After consulting with the Cash and Food Assistance Policy Work Group made up of both state and county representatives, we have decided to use the same training programs that have been approved for the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) activities in order to comply with the requirement to show a direct link between the program and employment. Through discussion it seems that most of the current allowable programs are covered under the WIA activities, and with the state maintaining one central list in the state plan, each county agency allowing an education component will not be required to amend their individual plans to include their specific allowable degrees or certification programs.

You may access the list of WIA training programs by accessing the following web site:
<https://ohiomeansjobs.com/etpo/>

Click on "Search for Training Providers." You may then search by the name of the training provider or by the name of the training program. If you choose to search by training provider you can enter your county as your search parameter to receive a listing of available providers just for your county.

If you currently allow, or would like to use a training program that is not a WIA approved training program, you must submit the name of the program provider, a description of the program and how the program has a direct link to employment to Kara Wentz at kara.bertke-wente@jfs.ohio.gov by June 15, 2011. The Office of Families and Children will then review this request to determine if it can be added to the list of approved degrees and certificate programs for the Food Assistance Employment and Training Program.

c: Michael B. Colbert, Director
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