

STATE OF INDIANA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT INDIANAPOLIS

EXECUTIVE ORDER 25-52

FOR: PROMOTING LONG-TERM GROWTH AND FLOURISHING FOR HOOSIERS ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BY WORKFORCE ENCOURAGEMENT

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS.

WHEREAS, Article 1 Section 1 of the Indiana Constitution rests on the enduring truth that “all people are created equal; that they are endowed by their CREATOR with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that all power is inherent in the people; and that all free governments are, and of right ought to be, founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and well-being”;

WHEREAS, the State of Indiana is committing to helping the poor and unfortunate in a manner that both addresses and meets their pressing needs and invests in and encourages their long-term growth and flourishing;

WHEREAS, relieving individuals of personal responsibility for their own lives disrespects the inherent dignity of each individual;

WHEREAS, work is an essential part of human dignity because it provides an individual with both an opportunity to cultivate that individual’s own gifts and a path for creative growth, personal development, and societal impact;

WHEREAS, the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”) is administered by the State of Indiana to provide food assistance to lower-income Hoosiers;

WHEREAS, across the country, over ten million able-bodied adults without young children receive SNAP benefits;

WHEREAS, two-thirds of able-bodied adults on SNAP do not participate in the workforce;

WHEREAS, there are currently over seven million open jobs across the country with entry-level wages averaging \$15.12 per hour; and

WHEREAS, work requirements have a proven track record of moving able-bodied adults from welfare to the workforce and improving the physical and mental health of the adult;

WHEREAS, federal law requires able-bodied adults on food stamps to work, train, or volunteer for at least twenty (20) hours per week, but exempts able-bodied adults from this requirement if they have dependent children in the home or are between the ages of 55-59;

WHEREAS, one hundred seventy thousand (170,000) food stamp enrollees in the State of Indiana are not subject to a work requirement due to this exemption, and work requirements have been proven in other states to cut in half the average time someone spends on welfare, and to result in individuals going back to work in over one thousand (1,000) industries and doubling their income on average in a year;

WHEREAS, most able-bodied adults on food stamps do not work at all, including parents of school-age dependents;

WHEREAS, the State of Indiana has a labor shortage, with one hundred thirty eight thousand (138,000) open jobs, many of which are easily obtainable to working-age adults: nearly eighty-seven percent (87%) of open jobs require no prior experience, three (3) out of four (4) jobs don't require a college degree and only need one month or less of on-the-job training; and

WHEREAS, the Family Social Services Administration ("FSSA") operates an underutilized Employment and Training program, which is only expected to serve slightly over a thousand people per year out of approximately one hundred seventy-five thousand (175,000) food stamp enrollees who are eligible for the program;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE BRAUN, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby order that:

1. FSSA is directed to amend its employment and training program as defined in 7 U.S.C. § 2015(d)(4) in order to:
 - a. Meaningfully assign to the program all individuals subject to requirements under 7 U.S.C. § 2015(d)(1). Individuals who are exempt from work registration under 7 U.S.C. § 2015(d)(2) shall not be assigned.
 - b. Measure the success of the program by quantitative outcome measures, including, to the extent available:
 - i. Median earnings in the second and fourth quarter after exit.
 - ii. Employment rate in the second and fourth quarter after exit.
 - iii. Enrollment in SNAP in the second and fourth quarter after exit.
 - iv. The percentage of program participants who obtain, or are achieving measurable skill gains towards, completion of a recognized postsecondary credential, or a secondary school diploma within one year of exit.
 - c. Ensure that the employment and training program is meaningful and aligned with outcomes-based performance indicators listed above.
2. FSSA shall collaborate with the Management Performance Hub In order to collect and analyze the data required to comply with this Executive Order.
3. The Secretary of FSSA shall provide a report on implementation of this order to the Governor, the Secretary of Health and Family Services, and the Legislative Council by June 30, 2025.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Mike Braun, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Indiana on this 15th day of April, 2025.

Mike Braun

Mike Braun
Governor of Indiana

DIEGO MORALES

ATTEST: Diego Morales
Secretary of State