

# Project One Door: Streamlining Services, Strengthening the Workforce

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# Agenda

- Legislative Foundation
- Why Change was Needed
- Policy Intent
- Benefits of Integration
- Overall Changes to LDH
- Overview of Programs Transferred
- Fiscal Impact of 2025 Federal Reconciliation Bill
- Questions and Answers

# Legislative Foundation

- Authorized by **Act 478 (HB624)** of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session.
- Part of the Louisiana **One Door initiative** that streamlines the application process by consolidating social service and workforce programs into a single point of entry.
- Aims to **integrate health, nutrition, and family support services** under a unified access system with close collaboration between LDH and Louisiana Works.
- Effective date of transfer to Louisiana Department of Health was **October 1, 2025.**

# Why Change Was Needed

## Challenges under the prior structure:

- Families applied separately for **SNAP and Medicaid**, despite overlapping eligibility
- Duplicative **eligibility systems, case management, and verification processes**
- **Inconsistent** client experience and **lengthy** processing times
- **Fragmented data** across agencies limited program integrity and analytics

# Policy Intent

- **Simplify access** for Louisiana families by providing one application for health and nutrition benefits
- **Improve efficiency** by reducing duplication between agencies
- **Enhance data integration** to strengthen eligibility accuracy and fraud prevention
- **Align programs** that share a common mission — improving the health and economic stability of Louisiana residents
- **Intentional collaboration** between LDH and Louisiana Works to facilitate the move of recipients from dependence to independence

# Benefits of Integration

- **“One Door” access:** Families apply once for both SNAP and Medicaid
- **Faster processing:** Shared verification through federal data hubs
- **Stronger program integrity:** Consolidated data analytics and fraud detection
- **Improved outcomes:** Better coordination between healthcare and nutrition programs
- **Administrative savings:** Reduce duplication in staffing and technology systems

# Overall Changes to LDH

- **Budget**
  - The total budget increased by \$285.5 million
- **Personnel**
  - 1,452 T.O. were transferred
- **Leases**
  - 43 leased office spaces were transferred

# Programs Transferred to LDH

- **SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**
  - A federal program that provides food-purchasing assistance for low and no-income persons to help maintain nutritious food that is essential to health and well-being
- **FITAP: Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program**
  - Provides cash assistance to financially needy families with children and aims to help move them toward self-sufficiency through job preparation and work activities

# Programs Transferred to LDH

- **KCSP: Kinship Care Subsidy Program**
  - Cash subsidy provided to income-eligible relatives that have a legal custodial arrangement to care for a child
- **DDS: Disability Determination Services**
  - A program, fully funded by the federal government, that reviews Social Security disability claims to determine medical eligibility

# Overview of Louisiana SNAP

Louisiana SNAP recipients  
**798,708 individuals**

Approximately 17.6% of the state's population



Households

393,967



Adults

439,006



Children

359,702



\$148.2  
million

*Data as of September 1, 2025*

# Current SNAP Participation

PARISH	RECIPIENTS
East Baton Rouge	76,815
Orleans	73,820
Jefferson	59,179
Caddo	48,542
Lafayette	38,749
Ouachita	34,473

PARISH	RECIPIENTS
Calcasieu	32,889
Tangipahoa	30,095
St Tammany	25,982
Rapides	24,575
St Landry	22,673
Terrebonne	20,193

*Top 12 parishes = 61% of participation*

*Data as of September 1, 2025*

# Historical SNAP Statistics

FISCAL YEAR	AVERAGE MONTHLY RECIPIENTS	AVERAGE MONTHLY COST	TOTAL FISCAL YEAR PAYMENTS
2021-2022	825,816	\$201.0 million	\$2.4 billion
2022-2023	891,649	\$212.3 million	\$2.5 billion
2023-2024	865,184	\$159.4 million	\$1.9 billion
2024-2025	834,178	\$155.6 million	\$1.8 billion

# SNAP Waivers

## What are food restriction waivers?

- Food restriction waivers are a new policy tool that allow states to request permission from the USDA to narrow the definition of eligible foods with SNAP benefits.
- These waivers are a key step in ensuring that taxpayer dollars provide nutritious options that improve health outcomes within SNAP.
- By amending the definition of eligible foods, food demonstration projects are intended to test innovative ideas that develop and implement modernized programmatic systems, and strengthen state strategies to encourage health choices, healthy outcomes, and healthy families.

# SNAP Waivers

**Louisiana joins the following 11 states** with receiving approval for food restriction waivers that limit unhealthy food choices.

Indiana

Texas

Utah

Iowa

Colorado

Arkansas

Nebraska

Idaho

Oklahoma

West Virginia

Florida

# SNAP Waivers

- **Approved waiver**
  - New rules for Louisiana SNAP include a ban on purchasing candy, soft drinks, and energy drinks, effective January 15, 2026.
- **Rationale**
  - Promote healthier eating habits and reduce expenditures on foods linked to chronic illnesses
- **Definitions**
  - **Soft drinks:** Any carbonated, non-alcoholic beverage with high fructose corn syrup or artificial sweeteners
  - **Energy drinks:** Beverages with stimulants like caffeine, guarana, or taurine

# SNAP Waivers

- **Pending waiver**
  - Allows rotisserie chicken as a permissible SNAP purchase
  - Would last for two years
  - The state and USDA will monitor impacts and test whether nutritional outcomes improve by allowing some hot prepared foods
- **Rationale**
  - Provides a healthy food option that is ready to eat as opposed to relying on snack foods

# Overview of Louisiana FITAP

Louisiana FITAP Recipients  
**8,079**

Total Monthly Payments to Households: \$1.2 million



Households

**2,814**



Adults

**2,137**



Children

**5,942**

*Data as of September 1, 2025*

*Average monthly payment: \$427.76*

# Current FITAP Participation

PARISH	RECIPIENTS
East Baton Rouge	1,027
Orleans	963
Ouachita	616
Caddo	611
Lafayette	431
Jefferson	408

PARISH	RECIPIENTS
Calcasieu	329
Tangipahoa	314
St. Landry	224
St. Tammany	212
Bossier	184
Iberia	179

*Top 12 parishes = 68% of participation*

*Data as of September 1, 2025*

# Historical FITAP Statistics

FISCAL YEAR	AVERAGE MONTHLY RECIPIENTS	TOTAL FISCAL YEAR PAYMENTS
2021-2022	4,064	\$6.4 million
2022-2023	7,523	\$14.3 million
2023-2024	8,878	\$16.6 million
2024-2025	9,012	\$16.8 million

# Overview of Louisiana KCSP

## Current KCSP Participation

**1,657 Cases**    **3,064 Individuals**  
**1.85 Average Recipients/Case**

**Average Monthly Payment/Case: \$828.30**

**Total Monthly Payments: \$1.4 million**

*Data as of September 1, 2025*

# Historical KCSP Statistics

FISCAL YEAR	AVERAGE MONTHLY CASES	TOTAL FISCAL YEAR PAYMENTS
2021-2022	1,349	\$10.4 million
2022-2023	1,592	\$16.4 million
2023-2024	1,648	\$16.9 million
2024-2025	1,647	\$16.9 million

# Overview of Louisiana DDS

## September 2025 Workload

LOCATION	CASES RECEIVED	DECISIONS RENDERED	CASES PENDING
Baton Rouge	2,035	1,202	17,222
Shreveport	2,132	2,327	15,016
New Orleans	1,605	1,994	15,746
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,772</b>	<b>5,523</b>	<b>47,984</b>

# 2025 Federal Reconciliation Bill – SNAP Fiscal Impact

## SNAP Error Rate

- Effective **Fiscal Year 2028**
- States may utilize the state's **FY 2025 or FY 2026** payment error rate to determine liability.
- Improper payments in SNAP occur due to error with application processing and data matching
- Future Federal Payment Rates:
  - **<6%** error rate: Feds pay **100%** of SNAP benefits
  - **6% to <8%** rate: Feds pay **95%** of SNAP benefits
  - **8% to <10%** rate: Feds pay **90%** of SNAP benefits
  - **10% or greater** rate: Feds pay **85%** of SNAP benefits

# 2025 Federal Reconciliation Bill – SNAP Fiscal Impact

## Reduction in administrative cost support

- Effective **October 1, 2026**
- Federal reimbursement rate for administrative costs will drop from the current rate of **50% down to 25%**.
- This decrease will cause Louisiana to lose approximately **\$30.9 million** in federal funds for FY 27.

# Summary of One Door Changes

- **A single, client-centered access point** for health and nutrition
- **More efficient use of federal and state resources**
- **Stronger connections** between healthcare, nutrition, and family stability
- **Modernization of service delivery** while maintaining continuity of benefits to Louisiana families
- Structure that supports the **movement from dependence to independence**

# Constituent Concerns/Questions

For constituent concerns/questions, contact the LDH Legislative & Governmental Relations group.

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# THANK YOU

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