Many low-income Californians, even those who work, rely on public support through CalFresh—also known as Food Stamps or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)—to supplement their family’s nutrition. The Fresh Success program, developed by the Foundation for California Community Colleges (Foundation), helps CalFresh recipients improve their job prospects and reduce dependency on public benefits through federally funded CalFresh Employment and Training (E&T).

**Fresh Success E&T Model**

The Foundation helps California Community Colleges, adult education programs, and community organizations start CalFresh E&T programs, allowing them to receive partial federal reimbursement for employment and training activities provided to CalFresh recipients. The Foundation provides tools, templates, and a training curriculum to ease the start-up process, and ongoing technical assistance to support effective program practices, and help manage federal funding.

**Program Benefits**

*Improves skills for unemployed and low-wage workers.* CalFresh E&T is a critical tool that can provide employer-valued skills training to low-income Californians.

*Increases participation in CalFresh.* CalFresh is one of the largest anti-poverty programs in California. CalFresh E&T incentivizes people to enroll in CalFresh by offering additional benefits on top of access to nutritious food.

*Extends benefits to students.* Community College students are usually excluded from CalFresh benefits if they are not working at least half-time; however, participation in an E&T program provides an exemption so they can receive food benefits while in school.

*Provides a path from poverty.* Research shows completing a certificate or degree at a community college is associated with increased wages and employment opportunities.