



Food Safety and
Inspection Service

Office of Field
Operations

Springdale District
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FSIS Commitment to Partnership with FNS E&T Program

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is the public health agency in the U.S. Department of Agriculture responsible for ensuring that the nation's commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products is safe, wholesome, and correctly labeled and packaged. Our Agency has employment opportunities throughout the state of Kansas for food inspectors and many of those receiving assistance from USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Employment and Training (E&T) meet the basic qualification requirements for the positions.

In early 2014, contact was made with FNS to see if the two agencies could partner in order to accomplish two goals. Those goals were for FSIS to have additional applicants in the pool and for FNS to find productive jobs for applicants receiving benefits in the form of food assistance. FSIS welcomed this challenge and was introduced to the Kansas Department of Children and Families (KDCF) who administers the food assistance programs for FNS. The two groups joined together and began making plans for a successful recruiting event during March 2014. Fliers were developed to inform FNS recipients of the food inspector positions and that an event was planned to assist them with the application process. In August 2014, the processes explained above were duplicated again in Southwest Kansas.

Several applicants who were on assistance through FNS were hired for full-time food inspector positions with FSIS in Southwest Kansas and many others are currently in the applicant pool for future consideration of positions. We feel the work FSIS has done in partnership with FNS E&T has been a profitable experience for both groups. The job opportunities that FSIS offers provide FNS E&T customers with secure employment and steady income. FSIS is committed to continuing the partnership with FNS E&T in an effort to provide individuals on assistance with employment as food inspectors. KDCF is a key and active component of that partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul A. Kiecker", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Paul A. Kiecker
District Manager
Springdale District Office
USDA FSIS OFO