



# Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

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## General Information System (GIS) Message

### Section 1

<b>Transmittal:</b>	22 TA/DC008 Upstate and New York City
<b>Date:</b>	January 21, 2022
<b>To:</b>	Subscribers
<b>Suggested Distribution:</b>	Commissioners, Employment Coordinators, TA Directors, SNAP Directors, Staff Development Coordinators
<b>From:</b>	Valerie Figueroa, Deputy Commissioner Employment and Income Support Programs
<b>Subject:</b>	Information Regarding System Alignment for Young Families Learning Academy
<b>Effective Date:</b>	Immediately
<b>Contact Information:</b>	Employment and Advancement Services Bureau at: 518-486-6106 or <a href="mailto:otda.sm.eisp.eas@otda.ny.gov">otda.sm.eisp.eas@otda.ny.gov</a>

### Section 2

The purpose of this GIS is to provide information to social services districts (districts) about the availability of a technical assistance opportunity offered by the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA). Applications are due by February 2, 2022.

APSHA is launching a learning academy to bring together teams of cross-sectional state or local leadership, parents and other key stakeholders to advance alignment of health and human services systems to better serve and support young families. This work builds off of APHSA's "System Alignment for Young Families Workgroup" which brought together state and local leadership, advocacy organizations, researchers and young parents to advise on the experiences of those who administer and those who utilize the health and human services programs.

The System Alignment for Young Families Learning Academy will bring together at least six cross-sectional states or local teams for peer-to-peer learning and technical assistance from March 2022 until September 2022. The Academy will consist of three peer-to-peer learning sessions and nine, shorter, direct project team technical assistance sessions. Peer-to-peer sessions will give participants a chance to come together to share resources, discuss specific barriers, and learn from the progress made by each team. Bi-monthly individual team meetings will focus on the creation and implementation of a Strategic Alignment Plan (SAP) to identify and actualize system alignment goals within each team's individual jurisdiction.

## Requirements:

In order to participate in the learning academy, teams must meet the following requirements:

- Have the expressed support and commitment to system alignment for young families from all relevant state or local leadership;
- Ability to meet a time commitment of six months and twelve total sessions, varying in length from 30-90 minutes. To the extent possible, the whole team should be present for each meeting; and,
- Meet requirements for cross-sectional team make-up.

Teams must include at least:

- One young parent (generally, a parent under the age of 24 with at least one child under the age of five, preferably with lived expertise accessing or utilizing human services systems).
- Two to three members should consist of cross-programmatic leadership from any health or human service agency, (i.e. TANF, SNAP, child welfare, child support, public health, etc.).

Teams can have a maximum of 6 members. Teams are highly encouraged to include representative team members such as front-line staff that spend at least half of their time working directly with program participants; staff that support or lead data collection and analysis or IT infrastructure; or representatives from the provider community. Priority will be given to teams whose members reflects each team's individual goals and interests.

To apply and learn more, districts should visit the application page at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LVFM7N>. Applications are due by February 2, 2022. Districts are encouraged to share this information with any local or community partners who may be interested in participating.