**Section 121.172 Basic Education** **Activity**

a) In the Basic Education activity, individuals may be referred to testing, counseling, and education resources, rehabilitation therapy, and agencies or programs that sponsor these activities. Supportive services provided to individuals to increase their employment potential and to remove significant barriers to employment will be administered by SNAP E&T staff or the contracted provider, community-based organization, or community college/university.

b) Eligibility Criteria. Approval of an education and training plan is based upon the Department's assessment of the following factors:

1) The program selected will lead to unsubsidized employment, taking into consideration the time required to complete, and the over-all cost and quality of the program;

2) An individual has the aptitude, ability and interest necessary for success in the particular education or training program (as determined by such factors as test results, educational background and previous training);

3) The program must be administered by an educational institution meeting the standards issued by the Illinois State Board of Education or the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation or funded by the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) (29 USC 2801 et seq.);

4) An individual must apply for the Pell grant and scholarships from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, as well as any scholarships or grants identified by the education or training facility for which an individual may be eligible.

(Source: Amended at 44 Ill. Reg. 5348, effective March 11, 2020)