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a food safety program official for 1 year or 10 years, they gain new knowledge from EATS.

As an incentive to EATS participants, CDC offers continuing education units for completion of each course. Because EATS is comprehensive and provides many opportunities to apply knowledge learned, completion requires a significant time commitment. It takes an average of 9 hr and 6 hr to complete EATS 101 and EATS 102, respectively. The exercises, however, are self-paced and do not have to be completed in one sitting.

Participants report that the training is engaging and effective in improving foodborne illness investigator skills. For example, a Minnesota Department of Health staff member noted that they use some of the questioning tactics presented in NEARS in the field and that EATS can help any inspector conducting outbreak investigations.

CDC is dedicated to promoting the impor-