

SNAP Work Requirement Policy released

The link to the detailed state policy is in the DuPage Federation email below. I'll forward flyers, handouts, etc. as soon as they are available.

In the meantime please encourage clients to open any mail they have received from the state. If they need help understanding if this affects them or what to do the DuPage IDHS Office can be reached by phone # 630-328-1000 and is located at 1717 Park Street, Naperville, IL, 60563.

They are trying to reach the people who may be affected by this change as soon as possible to help them prepare to meet the work requirements so they don't lose their SNAP benefits.

Policy Summary Highlights:

- The SNAP Work Requirement ABAWD Time-Limited Benefits policy applies to able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) who are between the age of 18 through 49, and are receiving SNAP, do not meet an exemption reason and are not residing in a waived area.
- ABAWDs are a subset of the Work Provision (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) SNAP population. An ABAWD must meet all the general Work Provision rules, like register for work and not voluntarily quit a job. When the Work Requirement policy is in effect, it requires an ABAWD to also meet certain special SNAP work rules in addition to the Work Provision requirements in PM 03-15-01.<<http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=14602>> The ABAWD must work at least 80 hours per month, or participate and comply with a SNAP E&T Program activity, or take part in an approved workfare program, or perform community work for the required number of hours per month, or a combination of these to meet the required number of hours per month. If the special SNAP work rules are not met a non-exempt ABAWD can only receive 3 full months of SNAP benefits in a 3-year period. This is called Time-Limited Benefits
- Currently the entire State is exempt from the SNAP Work Requirement ABAWD Time-Limited Benefits policy through 12/31/17 due to a Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) waiver approval. This waiver allows customers to receive SNAP without being limited to 3 months of SNAP benefits in a 36-month period, if the work requirement is not being met.
- Effective January 2018, DuPage County is non-exempt from the SNAP Work Requirement ABAWD Time-Limited Benefits policy. All other counties in Illinois are exempt from the SNAP Work Requirement ABAWD Time-Limited Benefits policy through December 2018. A non-exempt customer's eligibility for SNAP is limited to three months of ABAWD Time-Limited Benefits in a 36-month period, if he or she is not meeting a work requirement and does not have a qualifying exemption. A person who lives in DuPage County and has their case serviced by another county is still subject to SNAP Work Requirement ABAWD Time-Limited Benefits policy. The Office of Choice is responsible for enforcing the Work Requirement ABAWD Time-Limited Benefits policy and monitoring the eligibility of the customer for

SNAP. Non-exempt customers residing in other counties are still required to participate in SNAP E&T in counties where there are provider slots and resources available.