



Do you work with individuals or families who receive SNAP food benefits?

Under new federal rules, clients may need to report work activity to maintain SNAP food benefits even if not previously required to do so. These rules are also referred to as Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) Time Limits.

How Community Organizations Can Help

- Share information about new SNAP work requirements with your clients via 1:1 meetings or informational sessions.
- Assist clients in determining if they qualify for exemptions.
- Support clients in reporting work activities or connecting to job training, volunteering, or SNAP E&T programs.
- Assist in the completion of ABAWD forms located at [SNAP E & T](#), [SNAP Outreach Toolkit](#), [Stay Covered RI](#) which also have links to additional information and resources tied to SNAP.

Work requirements are met if clients spend at least **80 hours each month** working, enrolled in a job training or work program, or volunteering. To learn more visit [Jobseeker Resources | RI Department of Labor & Training](#).

Practical Tips to Support Your Clients

- Ask clients if they are aware of the changes to SNAP rules.
- Review state resources for eligibility and exemptions with clients.
- Help clients gather documentation for exemptions, work, volunteering, or training hours.
- Assist clients in completing the necessary steps and forms to avoid cases closing (churn). Forms are located at the Outreach Resources tab [here](#).

Questions? Please contact DHS at 1-855-697-4347, visit [SNAP ABAWD](#) on the DHS website for more information, or ask a [SNAP Outreach Partner](#).



Help clients understand important changes to SNAP work requirements.

Under new federal rules, clients may need to meet work requirements to maintain SNAP food benefits even if not previously required to do so. Work requirements are met if clients spend at least **80 hours each month** working, enrolled in a job training or work program, or volunteering.

The full population required to meet work requirements:

- Age 18 – 64
- Do not live with a dependent child under age 14
- Are considered physically and mentally able to work

Those newly required to meet work requirements:

- People ages 55 – 64 (*those ages 60-64 are exempt from general work requirements but may need to meet work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents*)
- People whose youngest dependent in their household is between ages 14 and 17 (*those previously exempt with a dependent under age 18 are no longer exempt, unless a dependent is younger than 14*)
- Veterans
- People experiencing homelessness
- People ages 24 or younger, who were in foster care on their 18th birthday.

Clients may be exempt from work requirements, if they fit the description below.

Next steps to support clients who want to maintain SNAP food benefits:

- ✓ Review eligibility and exemption rules with clients.
- ✓ If clients are not exempt, ensure they understand that they need to engage in work, volunteering, or a job training program for at least 80 hours each month.
- ✓ Share information on how clients can report their work activities.

Clients who do not meet the 80 hr/month work requirement will only receive SNAP for 3 months in a 3-year period.

Help your clients keep this essential benefit!

You can help clients review the exemption list, complete forms, and connect with support services.

Clients may be exempt from work requirements if they are:

- Younger than 18 or older than 64
- Responsible for a dependent child under age 14 in household
- Pregnant
- Disabled or receive disability benefits (Social Security, SSI, or VA)
- Physically or mentally unable to work
- Enrolled in school, college, or a training program at least half-time
- Participating in a drug addiction or alcohol treatment and rehabilitation program
- Receiving or have applied for unemployment benefits
- Caring for someone who is elderly or disabled
- Already working 30 hours or more a week or earning at least \$217.50/week
- Meeting the work rules for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Identify as an Indian, Urban Indian, or California Indian

Clients can get more information about exemptions by contacting DHS at 1-855-697-4347 or by visiting the [SNAP ABAWD Updates](#) page on the DHS website.

How can clients meet work requirements?

Working	Work 80 hours a month. Work can be for pay, for goods or services/in kind (for something other than money), unpaid.
Volunteering	Volunteer 80 hours a month. You can combine locations of volunteer work to meet the requirement.
Participating in a SNAP E&T Program	Participate in a work program at least 80 hours a month. Visit risnapet.org to enroll in an E&T program.

Clients can engage in any combination of the above activities as long as they meet the total 80 hours per month requirement.



Learn more by visiting a DHS office during regular hours; calling 1-855-MY-RIDHS; or visiting staycovered.ri.gov/snap-updates.

You can check available work programs on the SNAP E&T webpage: risnapet.org.



Scan QR code for the Community Partner Exemption Form.