



Changes to SNAP Benefit Eligibility for Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents



According to federal guidelines, low-income able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) may only receive SNAP benefits for a total of 3 months within a 36-month period unless they meet the work requirements. Many cities in Rhode Island are exempt from the time limit, however as of September 1, 2018, time limits will apply to some SNAP recipients who reside in Barrington, Cumberland, Exeter, Glocester, Jamestown, Little Compton, Lincoln, Narragansett, Newport, N. Kingstown, N. Smithfield, Richmond, and Warwick, unless they meet other exemption criteria.

Who is considered an ABAWD?

ABAWD stands for "Able-Bodied Adult without Dependents." ABAWDs are

- individuals between the ages of 18 to 49 who are able to work and have no dependents living with them.

Who will be affected?

SNAP recipients living in Barrington, Cumberland, Exeter, Glocester, Jamestown, Little Compton, Lincoln, Narragansett, Newport, Exeter, N. Kingstown, N. Smithfield, Richmond, and Warwick, who are currently not meeting the work requirements and do not qualify for an exemption may be affected.

An individual is exempt from meeting the work requirement if he or she is:

- 1) Under 18 or 50 years of age or older; or
- 2) Disabled; or
- 3) Physically or mentally unable to work; or
- 4) A parent of a household member under age 18; or
- 5) Residing in a SNAP household where a household member is under age 18; or
- 6) Pregnant; or
- 7) Working 20 hours or more per week or at least 80 hours per month; or otherwise meeting the work requirements.

In order to meet the work requirements an individual must:

- Work 20 hrs/wk (averaged monthly) in exchange for money, goods and services, or as a volunteer OR
- Participate in a work program 20 hours/wk (averaged monthly) including programs under the Workforce Investment Act (WIOA) or the SNAP Employment & Training Program.

If you have any questions or need assistance, call the **SNAP Outreach Project at 1-866-306-0270**. To find out more information about how to meet the work requirements or **SNAP Employment & Training, call 401-415-8382 or 401-415-8385**, or if you need to update information on your SNAP case contact **the Department of Human Services at 1-855-697-4347**.