

ABAWD Work Requirements Exemptions

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Overview

This job aid describes how all FNS unit members between the ages of 18 and 49 continue to be subject to the FNS work requirements described in Section 240, regardless of whether they are subject to or exempt from the ABAWD FNS work requirements. If the exemption is not derived, Work Non-Participation evidence should be added for Food and Nutrition Services. For additional information on FNS work requirement exemptions, refer to the Work Registration Exemptions job aid.

Notes:

- September 1, 2023: The age of those subject to ABAWD time limits changes to ages between 18 and 50 (starting September 1, 2023)
- October 1, 2023: The age of those subject to the ABAWD time limits increases to age 52.
- October 1, 2024: The age of those subject to the ABAWD time limits increases to age 54.
- The below evidence is required for the ABAWD clock to begin:
 1. For Current Time Clock: For new applications and ongoing cases, ABAWDs need Work Non-Participation evidence with reason Individual assessed for ABAWD exemption added, using an evidence start date of 1/1/2022 and an evidence end date of 12/31/2024.
 2. For new applications and ongoing cases, ABAWDs need Work Non-Participation evidence with reason Individual assessed for ABAWD exemption added, using an evidence start date of 1/1/2025 and an evidence end date of 12/31/2027. (This evidence is required for the new ABAWD clock to begin). This evidence should ONLY be added for clients who remain eligible through December 2024 and have not used their 2022-2024 ABAWD months.
- At application/recertification, IF any individual fails Work Registration during the certification period being authorized, Caseworker will need to add Work Non-Participation evidence with an End Date the same as the certification period End Date.
- At recertification, if the individual still does not meet a work registration exemption, then register for work. Refer to the Work Registration Exemptions job aid.
- For cases when the youngest child turns age six mid certification period, and the member(s) are not work registered at recertification household member will have to be work registered.

- When household member(s) turn 16 mid certification period and the member is not work registered at recertification the household member will have to be work registered until the end of that period.

Step-by-Step Instructions

Applicants are Exempt from ABAWD Work Requirements if...	How it is determined from Evidence
<i>If Applicant Age is...</i>	
Younger than age 18	Derived from Date of Birth
Reached the age of 53	Derived from Date of Birth
<i>If FNS unit contains a member that is...</i>	
Younger than age 18	Derived from Date of Birth
<i>If Applicant is...</i>	
Exempt from FNS work requirements	See Work Registration Exemptions Job Aid
Living in a county that is Exempt from ABAWD FNS work requirements	Derived from County of Case Owner
Receiving public or private disability payments or Medicaid based on disability	Derived from Benefit evidence 'Workers Compensation' OR Work Non-Participation evidence 'Receives Disability Benefit from a Government Agency based on SSA' OR Benefit evidence type 'Disability based MA Benefits'
Unfit for work due to homelessness	Derived from Living Arrangement evidence and Work Non-Participation

	evidence 'Unfit for work due to chronic homelessness'
Unfit for work due to alcohol/drug addiction (person in outpatient or not receiving treatment)	Work Non-Participation evidence 'Unfit for work due to alcohol/drug addiction'
Pregnant	Derived from Pregnancy Evidence
<i>Physically or Mentally Unfit for Employment</i>	
Medically certified as physically or mentally unfit for employment	See Work Registration Exemptions Job Aid
<i>Foster Care</i>	
Individual who is 24 years of age or younger and who was in foster care under the responsibility of a State on the date of their 18 th birthday or later.	Derived from Foster Care evidence.
<i>Veterans</i>	
Individuals who have served in the armed forces (military).	Derived from Household Member evidence and Veteran Military Service evidence.

Notes:

- If the person's Living Arrangement is "ADTC", then Work- Non-Participation evidence is not needed.
- Refer to the *Adding Evidence to Cases* job aid for additional guidance.