



ABAWD Work Requirement

Presenters

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Presentation to the San Francisco
Food Security Task Force

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**CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**

Agenda

- ABAWD Policy and California's Waiver
- Who is Affected?
- Meeting the Work Requirement or Exemption
- ABAWD Time Limit
- How is HSA Preparing?
- How Can the Community Help?

ABAWD Policy and California's Waiver

- ABAWD: **A**ble **B**odied **A**dult **w**ithout **D**ependents.
 - Derived from Federal Regulation enacted in 1996 with the passage of Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act.
- Federal Regulation: If an individual is an ABAWD and are not working or excused from work, they can only receive SNAP/CalFresh for 3 months within a 36 month period.
- California's ABAWD Waiver: Between October 1, 2008 and August 31, 2018 all CA counties were exempt from compliance with the ABAWD work requirement.

Who is Affected?

- Able Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs)
 - Individuals age 18-49
- In San Francisco there are about 10,600* ABAWDs in the CalFresh caseload
 - All will be screened for an exemption and assisted with meeting the work requirement

*The number of ABAWDs is already reduced to exclude cases where an ABAWD is exempt because they are in a CalFresh household with a child under the age of 18.

Meeting the Work Requirement or Exemption

Work Requirement

- 20 hours per week or an average of 80 hours per month:
 - Working, including self-employment;
 - Going to school or training;
 - Doing volunteer work, community service, or in-kind work (working in exchange for goods or services instead of money); or
 - Going to a combination of any of the above
- Participate in job search up to 9 hours per week in combination with other work activities.
- Go to workfare. (This could met with as little as 3 hours per week.)

Meeting the Work Requirement or Exemption

CalFresh Employment and Training Orientation

- Unsubsidized employment
- Subsidized jobs at private businesses, nonprofits, and city agencies (32 hours/week at \$15/hour with benefits)
- Paid internships at nonprofits
- Training for in-demand jobs (hospitality and food, healthcare, office, retail, etc.)
- Workfare
- Specialized options for youth, non-English speakers, and clients who are formerly homeless or are at-risk of homelessness

Meeting the Work Requirement or Exemption

Exemptions

- Part of a CalFresh household with a child under the age of 18;
- Chronic Homelessness;
- Physically or mentally unable to work part time, an average of 20 hours per week;
- Pregnancy;
- Struggling with drug or alcohol;
- Going to school at least half time;
- Escaping Domestic Violence;
- Receiving or applying for:
 - Disability Benefits
 - Unemployment Insurance.

ABAWD Time Limit

- The ABAWD 36-month clock began on January 1, 2017 and will end on December 31, 2019.
- The ABAWD waiver for the first wave counties will end on August 31, 2018.
- An ABAWD who is not working or is not exempt from work, can only receive CalFresh for 3 months from September 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019.

How is HSA Preparing?

- February—Present ABAWD Pilot
 - Testing Preliminary Business Processes
 - Testing Forms
 - Testing Referral Processes
- Partnering with the State and the other first wave counties to prepare
- Connecting ABAWD clients to the Workforce Development Division (WDD) job placement
- Staff Training

How is HSA Preparing?

- Notices and Outreach
 - State CalFresh Informational Notice
 - County Developed Notices
 - Tentative send date is July 2018
 - Phased Approach focusing on the at risk population
 - Informational noticing to clients who are not ABAWD (as of 9/2018)

How Can the Community Help?

- Continue to encourage applications,
- Be aware of exemption rules and advise clients to share relevant information with HSA,
- Promote community-based food resources to clients who may fall off of CalFresh,
- Keep an eye out for a desk guide for community partners,
- Organizations can serve as an Alternative Workfare site
 - For more information, please contact Bernadette Santos at bernadette.santos@sfgov.org

Contact Information and Resources

Contact

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Resources

- [CDSS ABAWD Webinars](#)
- [All County Letter 18-08 CalFresh ABAWD Handbook v.1.0](#)
- [SF JobsNOW! Program Information](#)

Questions?