

# Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs)

<b>WHO IS AN ABAWD?</b>	An individual that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 18 through 49</li> <li>• Able to work and</li> <li>• Does not have a child under 18 included in the FNS unit</li> </ul>	
<b>WHO IS EXEMPT?</b>	<b>Work Registration Exemptions:</b>	<b>ABAWD Exemptions:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the age of 16 or over the age of 60</li> <li>• Participating in Work First, Refugee Cash Work Programs</li> <li>• Applying for or receiving unemployment insurance benefits (UIB)</li> <li>• Physically or Mentally unfit for work</li> <li>• Student in school at least half time (as defined by recognized school or institution)</li> <li>• Caring for an incapacitated person (does not have to reside in the home)</li> <li>• Employed/Self-employed 30 hours or more weekly</li> <li>• Operate Home School 30 hours weekly</li> <li>• Participating in a resident or non-resident drug/alcoholic treatment program</li> <li>• Disabled Specified Person or SSI recipient</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the age of 18 or 50 years of age or older</li> <li>• Pregnant</li> <li>• Living in a household with a child(ren) under 18 who is included in the FNSU</li> <li>• Alcohol / Drug Addiction causing ABAWD to be unfit to work</li> <li>• Homelessness- living in a Homeless Shelter or living on the street</li> <li>• Meets any work registration exemption</li> </ul>
<b>BENEFIT PERIOD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An ABAWD can receive 3 countable months of FNS benefits in a 36 month period.</li> <li>• Current period begins January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.</li> <li>• The 3 months do not have to be consecutive (a prorated month does not count).</li> </ul>	
<b>ABAWD WORK REQUIREMENTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working 20 hours per week (80 hours averaged monthly). <b>Note:</b> If work hours fall under 20 hours per week, it is a reportable change.</li> <li>• Participating in a work program such as Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), 20 hours per week (80 hours averaged monthly).</li> <li>• Volunteering with an approved public or private agency 20 hours per week (80 hours averaged monthly).</li> <li>• Participating 20 hours per week in a Work Program that includes qualifying ABAWD activities (<b>listed below</b>), as long as job search and/or job search training does not exceed 9 hours maximum which is less than half of the 20 hour weekly work requirement.</li> <li>• Working and/or participating in a work program such as WIOA or E&amp;T, and/or volunteering with a public or private agency for a combined total of 20 hours per week (80 hours averaged monthly).</li> </ul>	
<b>QUALIFYING ABAWD ACTIVITIES</b>	<p><b>WIOA Program:</b> (Formerly known as WIA) The goal is to increase opportunities for employment, education, and training (at least 20 hours per week).</p> <p><b>Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA):</b> Provides aid to workers who have lost their jobs as a result of foreign trade (at least 20 hours per week).</p> <p><b>Work Program:</b> Assist in obtaining employment through work-related education, training and work experience activities (at least 20 hours per week).</p> <p><b>Volunteer/Work Experience:</b> Designed to improve the employability of participants through actual work experience and/or training; placements can be with private, for-profit companies (20 hours/week, alone or combined with other activities).</p> <p><b>Education/Training:</b> Aims to improve basic skills or employability and have a direct link to employment (20 hours per week alone or combined with other activities).</p>	
<b>REGAINING ELIGIBILITY</b>	An ABAWD who has regained eligibility by meeting ABAWD work requirements of 80 hours in a 30 day period and is no longer meeting the ABAWD work requirement can receive an additional 3 consecutive (Bonus) months.	