

Urgent Bulletin

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

Suspension of ABAWD, NA E&T, and Voluntary Quit Requirements 03/27/2020

Program Impact: NA

This Urgent Bulletin is being issued to inform staff that provisions in Public Law 116-127, HR6201 Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) allows for the temporary suspension of ABAWD, NA E&T work registration requirements, and Voluntary Quit/Reduced Work Effort (VQ/RWE) requirements. In an effort to provide expedient assistance and ensure that benefits continue uninterrupted, the following changes to the Nutrition Assistance (NA) program are in effect until further notice:

ABAWD

ABAWD work requirements have been suspended. FAA Systems has created a new ABAWD Exemption Reason Code of CE. Staff should continue to follow policy on determining an ABAWD exemption using the existing exemption reasons. When a participant does not meet an exemption, and would normally have been coded NE on WERE, staff will key the new CE, HR6201 Families First Exempt, Exemption Reason Code.

When keying the new CE Exemption Reason Code on WERE, staff will get an edit message on WORW requiring a change in the FS PAR/EXEM field to RR.

NA Employment & Training (NA E&T)

Work requirements for NA E&T have been suspended. FAA staff will continue to key the appropriate referral codes in AZTECS but participation is not required. No negative actions should be taken for failure to comply with work requirements

Voluntary Quit/Reduced Work Effort (VQ/RWE)

During this time, staff must ensure NA participants are not disqualified or NA households closed for VQ/RWE. The VQ code has been suspended and FAA Systems is attempting to identify those individuals and households under a VQ/RWE disqualification and to remove those disqualifications. This will allow benefits to continue benefits.

Staff must ensure no negative actions are taken due to noncompliance of work requirements.

Please contact the FAA Policy Support Team by phone at (602) 774-5523 or by e-mail at FAAPolicyMgmt@azdes.gov with any questions or concerns regarding this broadcast.

Please consider the environment before printing this broadcast.

(20-0581)