

Urgent Bulletin

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

ABAWD Time Limit Notices

09/21/2023

Program Impact: NA

This Urgent Bulletin is being issued to inform staff that FAA Systems is mailing the NA Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) Time Limit Notice (X635) to budgetary units containing participants that are subject to ABAWD time limits.

To prepare for the statewide ABAWD time limit waiver ending on 09/30/2023, FAA systems is updating ABAWD exemption codes for all NA participants ages 18 through 52 years old. NA participants who do not meet an exemption and are not meeting the ABAWD work requirements are subject to ABAWD time limit rules beginning 10/01/2023.

The notice explains **all** of the following:

- The ABAWD time limit restricts the number of months a participant can receive NA benefits.
- The ABAWD exemptions and work requirements.
- Who in the budgetary unit is subject to the ABAWD time limit.
- When the participant meets an ABAWD exemption or the ABAWD work requirement, the included form should be completed and returned to FAA.
- A participant subject to ABAWD time limits will receive countable months beginning 10/01/2023.
- After receiving three countable months of NA benefits, the NA participant will lose NA benefits unless they meet the ABAWD extension, ABAWD exemption, or the ABAWD work requirement.

When an NA participant contacts FAA regarding their ABAWD status, review the WERE screen in AZTECS and complete **all** of the following:

- When a participant has GE in the EXPT RSN FS field on WERE, review the ABAWD exemptions to determine if the participant meets any other exemption or the ABAWD work requirement.
- When a participant has NE in the EXPT RSN FS field on WERE, review the ABAWD exemptions to determine if the participant meets an exemption or the ABAWD work requirement.

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- Update the EXPT RSN FS field on WERE when needed.
- Review the WORW screen in AZTECS for each participant with RA.
- Determine whether a change needs to be made to the PAR/EXEM field on WORW for any of the participants on the case.

When the participant states they meet an ABAWD exemption, the participant's statement may be used, unless it is questionable. When the ABAWD exemption claimed is questionable, request verification of the exemption. When a participant subject to ABAWD time limits meets an exemption, apply the exemption that allows for the longest period.

NOTE: The geographical exemption can only be applied when the participant doesn't meet any other exemption and lives in an area that is geographically exempt.

When the participant states they are meeting the ABAWD work requirement and the information is not already documented in the case file, request verification of the work requirement being met.

The new Job Aid titled Keying WERE for ABAWD is located on the DBME SharePoint. Use the Job Aid to assist in determining the correct keying procedure.

The Policy Support Team (PST) is in the process of updating the following ABAWD policies and keying procedures, which will be finalized by 10/02/2023:

- FAA2.M09A – ABAWD Time Limits and Work Requirements
- FAA2.M09B - ABAWD Exemptions and Tracking
- FAA2.M09C – ABAWD Continued Eligibility

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.

(23-0670R)