

A ABAWD Time Limits and Work Requirements



This subject includes information about NA Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) time limits and work requirements.

Policy

The [Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents\(g\)](#) (ABAWD) time limit applies to NA participants who do not meet an exemption or the ABAWD work requirement. These participants are limited to three full months of NA benefits in a fixed three-year period. The ABAWD three-year period is the same three years for all NA budgetary units in Arizona. The current three-year period began on 01/01/2022 and ends on 12/31/2024. (See [Example 1](#))

When an NA participant does not meet an ABAWD exemption or the ABAWD work requirement, benefit months count towards the three-month time limit.

An ABAWD participant may receive more than three months of NA benefits, during a three-year period when the participant meets any of the following:

- An NA work requirement exemption
- An ABAWD exemption
- The ABAWD work requirements

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ABAWD Time Limits

When an NA [Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents\(g\)](#) (ABAWD) participant does not meet an exemption or the ABAWD work requirement they are subject to the ABAWD time limits and benefit months count towards the three-month time limit.

NOTE When benefits are prorated in a month, the month does not count toward the ABAWD three-month limit.

When the three-year period ends the ABAWD countable months reset to zero, starting in the first month of the new three-year period.

NOTE During the ABAWD time limit waiver, the ABAWD participant can receive more than three months of NA benefits.

When a participant subject to the ABAWD time limits is receiving NA benefits and reaches the three-month limit, **one** of the following occur:

- When the participant is the only member of the case **all** of the following applies:
 - The case is closed.
 - A notice is mailed to the budgetary unit explaining the ABAWD time limit was reached and how to qualify for additional NA benefits.
- When the participant is included in a budgetary unit with other non-ABAWD participants, all of the following applies:
 - The participant is disqualified.
 - A notice is mailed to the budgetary unit explaining the ABAWD time limit was reached, who reached the time limit, and how they may qualify for additional NA benefits. The notice will also include details on the change to the NA benefit amount, due to the disqualification.

The ABAWD time limit does not apply to participants who meet **any** of the following exemptions:

- 17 years of age or younger.
- 53 years of age or older.
- Mentally or physically unfit for work.
- Residing in an NA budgetary unit where a participant is age 17 or younger.

NOTE When a participant resides with a minor child, the minor is not required to be eligible for NA benefits but is required to be included in the same budgetary unit. This exemption applies through the month in which the minor turns 18.

- Pregnant.
- [Homeless\(g\)](#).
- Veteran who served in the United States Armed Forces, regardless of discharge or release status.
- Former foster care youth 24 years of age or younger who were in the custody of [foster care\(g\)](#) when they turned age 18. When the foster care program allows for continued care past age 18, consider that age when determining if the child was in foster care when they reached the maximum age for continued care.
- An NA Work Requirement Exemption. (See [NA Work Requirement Exemptions](#) for additional exemptions which can be used for ABAWD.)
- Geographical Exemption, when living in an area that is exempt from the ABAWD time limit.

(For more detailed information about exemptions, see [ABAWD Exemptions](#).)

ABAWD Work Requirements

NA participants subject to the ABAWD time limit are required to meet the ABAWD work requirements to receive NA benefits beyond the three-month time limit. An ABAWD can meet the work requirement by doing **any** of the following:

- Working at least 20 hours per week (or an average of 80 hours per month). This includes self-employment, paid work, in-kind, and volunteer unpaid work, or any combination of these activities.
- Participating in and complying with **one** of the following work programs:

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Career Advancement Network (SNAP CAN) program, other than a job search or a job search training program, 20 hours per week.

NOTE The program may contain job search or job search training as a subsidiary component when the component is less than half of the required 20 hours per week.

Workforce Investment Opportunities Act (WIOA) Program or any component of WIOA.

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Act.

Participate at least half-time (as defined by the program) in a recognized Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP) approved, funded, or operated by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR).

- Any combination of working and participating in a work program for a total of 20 hours per week.

An ABAWD participant who is exempt or meets the ABAWD work requirements can still participate in the SNAP CAN program. FAA determines whether the ABAWD is appropriate to refer to SNAP CAN. See [SNAP CAN](#) for more information.

ABAWD Good Cause

An ABAWD participant is determined to have good cause for not meeting the ABAWD work requirement when, due to circumstances beyond the control of the participant, the participant missed work, but would have worked an average of at least 20 hours per week, or an average of 80 hours per month. Good cause for not meeting the ABAWD work requirement could include, and is not limited to, **any** of the following:

- Illness
- Illness of other household members, requiring the presence of the participant
- Household emergency
- Unavailability of transportation

(For additional good cause reasons, see [NA Work Requirements Good Cause Reasons](#).)

ABAWD Reporting Requirements

NA budgetary units with ABAWD participants are assigned to Simplified Reporting requirements. The budgetary unit is also required to report when the work hours of the ABAWD participant drop below 20 per week, or an average of 80 per month.

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