

Urgent Bulletin

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

ABAWD Discretionary Exemption

08/29/2024

Program Impact: NA

This Urgent Bulletin is being issued to inform staff that effective 08/30/2024, AZTECS will be updated to allow the Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) Discretionary Exemption (DE) Code for September, October, November, and December 2024.

NA Participants subject to the ABAWD time limit can be exempt with the discretionary exemption when the participant does not meet any other ABAWD exemption or work requirement.

Starting on 08/30/2024, when an NA participant does not meet any other ABAWD exemption or work requirement, key the DE ABAWD Discretionary Exemption Code in the WERE EXPT RSN FS field on WERE.

Staff must determine the correct exemption for an ABAWD participant and use an ABAWD work requirement or an ABAWD exemption before using the discretionary exemption.

AZTECS auto-populates WERE with an ABAWD exemption code. When another exemption is more appropriate, change the auto-populated exemption on WERE.

The AB Denial Closure Reason Code is deactivated as of 08/30/2024 until further notice.

Beginning January 2025, a new ABAWD three-year period begins, and the benefit months of January, February, and March are not counted toward the ABAWD time limit.

On 08/30/2024, the Policy Support Team (PST) will place a yellow banner in the Cash and Nutrition Assistance Policy (CNAP) Manual at [FAA2.M09A](#) titled ABAWD Time Limit and Work Requirements and [FAA2.M09B](#) title ABAWD Exemptions with a link to this Urgent Bulletin. Refer to this Urgent Bulletin for directions on completing ABAWD exemptions until further notice.

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

Please consider the environment before printing this broadcast.

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