

SNAP ABAWD Quick Facts for Community Organizations

The federal Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD) time limit rule puts a limit on how long individuals are eligible to receive SNAP. People that are considered ABAWDs can only receive SNAP for 3 months in a 3-year period unless they are meeting the work requirements or meet an exemption. As of Jan 1, 2020, this is in place for DuPage and Cook Counties only. More Illinois counties may be impacted later in 2020.

Who is at risk?

SNAP recipients who:

- live in DuPage or Cook Counties
- are between 18 and 49 years old,
- are not disabled
- do not have children under 18 or any dependents, and
- are not working at least 20 hours/week or 80 hours/month

Who is exempt?

Time Limits do not apply to those who meet the following (this list is not exhaustive):

- People who are under 18 or over 50 years of age
- Pregnant
- Living with a child under 18 who is part of your SNAP household
- Eligible Students
- People who are physically or mentally unable to work 20 hours a week.
- People who are chronically homeless
- People in a drug or alcohol treatment program
- People receiving domestic violence services
- People responsible for the care of an incapacitated person

Work Requirements:

Individuals who do not meet any of the exemptions, can remain eligible for SNAP benefits past 3 months if they meet the work requirement by participating in a qualifying work activity and document the number of hours worked each month with their SNAP office.

Qualifying work activities include:

- Working an average of 80 hours per month (including income-in-kind)
- Participating in an eligible work training program for at least 20 hours per week
- Volunteer work or community service for at least 20 hours a week
- Any combination of the above for a total of 80 hours/month



How can community organizations help?

- **Learn** about the changes so you can help those in our community that will be affected. Look to **Additional Resources** for more information
- **Collaborate** with fellow community organizations to provide ABAWDs with the assistance they need
- **Connect** with those you serve. Talk with them about these changes and provide them with information to help them navigate them
- **Share** this facts sheet, or any of the other fact sheets that can be found through Northern Illinois Food Bank's SNAP Outreach team or on the DuPage Federation's website
- **Offer** alternatives that will fill the gap: Allow clients to come more often, allow them to take more food, offer more social services

Additional Resources for your Clients:

Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS):

www.dhs.state.il.us (Search ABAWD)
Statewide Customer Service Hotline:
800-843-6154

Northern Illinois Food Bank (for DuPage residents)

www.solvehungertoday.org
SNAP Outreach Team: 844-600-7627

- To locate local pantries, visit the website and go to **Get Groceries** and type in your zip code.

Greater Chicago Food Depository (for Cook residents)

www.chicagosfoodbank.org
Benefits Outreach Team: 773-843-5416

- To locate local pantries, visit the website and go to **Find Food** and type in your zip code.

Illinois WorkNet Centers

<https://www.illinoisworknet.com>

- Job search & training services. If you participate, you can count 20 hours/week as your work requirement.

National Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-799-7233

National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI)

<https://namiillinois.org/>
Information line: 217-522-1403

DuPage Federation

www.dupagefederation.org

