



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Transitional Assistance


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Online Guide Transmittal 2017-112
December 29, 2017

To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff
From:  Paul Sutliff, Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations
Re: SNAP – Updates to ABAWD Work Program Exemptions

Overview

Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) are limited to 3 months of eligibility for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits during a 36-month period, unless the client is exempt or meets the ABAWD Work Program (WP) requirement.

The population to whom the Resident of a Waived Area and 15% Exemption reasons are applied is changing effective January 1, 2018.

Due to improvements in the unemployment rate and job availability, many currently waived cities and towns will no longer qualify for a waiver. The list of waived areas has been updated.

Additionally, Central Office Employment and Training (E&T) specialists have new criteria that must be used to assign the 15% exemption reason.

Purpose

This Transmittal advises staff of updated Online Guide content related to ABAWD WP exemptions, including:

- changes to the list of communities waived from ABAWD WP requirement; and
 - new criteria for using the 15% exemption.
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**Revised Online
Guide Page**

Topic: SNAP
Book: Work Requirements
Chapter: ABAWD Work Program Requirement
Page: ABAWD Work Program Exemptions

Topic: SNAP
Book: Work Requirements
Chapter: ABAWD Work Program Requirement
Page: ABAWD Work Program-Waived Areas

Questions

If you have any policy or procedural questions, after conferring with the appropriate TAO personnel, please have your Systems Information Specialists or TAO management email the DTA Mailbox.

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk.
