



Date: September 27, 2021

DMS Operations Memo 21-21

To: Income Maintenance Supervisors  
Income Maintenance Lead Workers  
Income Maintenance Staff  
FSET Agencies

**Affected Programs:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BadgerCare Plus      | <input type="checkbox"/> Caretaker Supplement                         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FoodShare | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FoodShare Employment and Training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SeniorCare           |   |

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**FoodShare Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents  
Work Requirement Exemptions for Fiscal Year 2022**

**CROSS REFERENCE**

- FoodShare Wisconsin Handbook, [Section 3.17.1 Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents \(ABAWDs\)](#)
- Operations Memos [19-38](#), [20-05](#), and [20-21](#)
- Process Help, [Chapter 71](#)
- 7 C.F.R. 273.24(f), (g), and (h)
- 84 FR 66782

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

October 1, 2021

**PURPOSE**

This operations memo announces the extension of the federal approval to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) FoodShare members from the work requirement time limits for fiscal year 2022 (October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022).

## **BACKGROUND**

FoodShare members between ages 18 and 49, who do not live with a child under 18, and do not have any other exemption, can only get FoodShare (SNAP) benefits for three months in three years unless they meet certain special work requirements or are excused. This is called the time limit for the ABAWD work requirement otherwise known as time-limited benefits (TLBs).

States may request from the federal government to suspend the time limit in areas of high unemployment. Operations memo [20-21](#) previously announced that Wisconsin suspended the time limit statewide from October 1, 2020 until September 30, 2021. Wisconsin ABAWD policy details are available in the FoodShare Wisconsin Handbook, [Section 3.17.1 Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents \(ABAWDs\)](#).

## **POLICY**

This operations memo announces the extension of the federal approval to exempt ABAWD FoodShare members statewide from the time limits of the work requirement for fiscal year 2022, which is October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022. While in effect, TLB months are not counted for individuals who receive FoodShare benefits but do not meet the ABAWD work requirements.

FoodShare members affected by the extension will be informed of the extension through a letter, email, or ACCESS based on their notification preferences. FoodShare applicants and members are still subject to the general work registration requirements during this time.

FoodShare members should still be screened for all exemptions from the ABAWD work requirement throughout the duration of this period and should still be encouraged to participate in the FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) program if they are looking for assistance in developing job skills, finding a job, or are pursuing career advancement.

## **CONTACTS**

BEOT CARES Information and Problem Resolution Center: [DHSCAREScallcenter@wi.gov](mailto:DHSCAREScallcenter@wi.gov)

DHS/DMS/BEEP/SP