



Date: September 13, 2024

DMS Operations Memo 24-19

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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Bureau of Enrollment & Eligibility Policy
Division of Medicaid Services

Continued Fiscal Responsibility Act Update to the FoodShare Work Requirement

CROSS REFERENCE

- FoodShare Wisconsin Handbook, [Section 3.17.1 FoodShare Work Requirements for ABAWDs](#)
- FSET Policy Handbook, [Section 6.3 FSET Participation Requirements](#) and [Section 6.2.1 Non-ABAWD](#)
- Operations Memo 22-11, [New Consolidated Notice and Oral Explanation of FoodShare Work Requirements](#)
- Operations Memo 23-20, [Reinstatement of FoodShare Work Requirement](#)
- Operations Memo 23-26, [Changes to FoodShare Work Requirement Exemptions and Age Range Based on the 2023 Fiscal Responsibility Act](#)
- 7 CFR [§ 273.2\(f\)](#)

EFFECTIVE DATE

October 1, 2024

PURPOSE

This operations memo announces an age change related to the FoodShare work requirement for members who are Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD).

BACKGROUND

Income maintenance agencies screen ABAWDs at application and renewal for exemptions from the work requirement. ABAWDs without an exemption are subject to the ABAWD work requirement. To meet the work requirement, members must work, participate in an allowable work program, or volunteer for a combined total of at least 80 hours each month. If an ABAWD does not meet their monthly work requirement, they can receive up to three months of time-limited benefits (TLB) in a three-year period without losing eligibility.

In 2023, the Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA) raised the upper age limit for individuals who need to meet the ABAWD work requirement to continue receiving FoodShare benefits. To be compliant with these federal regulations, FoodShare has extended the age range two previous times:

- In September 2023, the age was extended from 18-49 to 18-50.
- In October 2023, the age was extended from 18-50 to 18-52.

POLICY

Effective October 1, 2024, ABAWDs without an exemption will be subject to a work requirement if aged 18 to 54.

The policy change will apply to:

- New ABAWD applicants or ABAWD members that lose eligibility and reapply with a filing date on or after October 1, 2024, aged 53-54 years old.
- Ongoing ABAWD members aged 53-54 years old, on the month following their next renewal month, beginning October 1, 2024.

CONTACTS

DHS CARES Problem Resolution Team

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