



The Work Requirement for Adults Ages 18 Through 54

What is the work requirement for adults ages 18 through 54?

It is a federal requirement that some FoodShare members need to meet in order to keep getting FoodShare benefits. It applies to adults ages 18 through 54 who do not have any children under age 18 living in their home and who do not have an exemption.

The FoodShare work requirement is different from FoodShare basic work rules.

How can I meet the work requirement?

There are three ways to meet the work requirement:

1. Work at least 80 hours each month.
2. Take part in an allowable work program at least 80 hours each month, such as:
 - FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET).
 - Wisconsin Works (W-2).
 - Certain programs under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).
3. Both work and take part in an allowable work program for a combined total of at least 80 hours each month.

If I am an adult who needs to meet the work requirement, when do I need to start meeting it?

You need to start meeting the work requirement in the first full month of getting FoodShare benefits. When a FoodShare application is approved, anyone on the application who needs to meet the work requirement is referred to the FSET program.

Which adults ages 18 through 54 are exempt from the work requirement?

You may be exempt and may not need to meet the work requirement if any of the following is true:

- You are living with a child who is under age 18 who is part of the same FoodShare household, even if the child is not eligible for FoodShare benefits.
- You are the primary caretaker for a person who cannot care for themselves (whether the person lives in your home or out of your home).
- You are the primary caretaker for a dependent child under age 6 (whether the child lives in your home or out of your home). However, if you and another person both have parental control of the child, only one of you can be exempt from FoodShare work requirement as the primary caregiver of that child.
- You are physically or mentally unable to work.
- You are experiencing homelessness. This includes people who are in a temporary housing situation, such as transitional living arrangements and shelters, or staying temporarily (up to 90 days) at another person's residence.
- You are pregnant.
- You are receiving or have applied for unemployment compensation.
- You are taking part in an alcohol or other drug abuse (AODA) treatment or rehabilitation program.
- You are enrolled at least half-time in a recognized school or institution of higher learning.
- You are age 18 or older attending high school at least half-time.
- You are enrolled in W-2 and meeting W-2 participation requirements.
- You are working 30 or more hours per week or are earning weekly wages of \$217.50 or more.
- You are an 18- to 24-year-old who was in foster care, a subsidized guardianship, or

court-ordered kinship care, when you turned 18.

- You are a veteran. A veteran is a person who served in the United States Armed Forces (including the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Armed Forces Reserve) and was discharged or released under any conditions.

Note: You may need to provide proof that you have an exemption.

What if I do not meet the work requirement?

If you need to meet the work requirement and do not meet it, you may be limited to three months of FoodShare benefits in a 36-month (three-year) period. The current time limit period began on January 1, 2025, and continues until December 31, 2027. To keep getting FoodShare benefits after the three months, you must meet the work requirement, have an exemption, or wait until your 36-month period has passed.

How do I get help meeting the work requirement?

You will be referred to the free and voluntary FSET program when you renew or apply for

FoodShare benefits if you need to meet the work requirement and are not already working or participating in a work program for at least 80 hours each month, or a combination of both.

FSET can help you meet the work requirement. FSET offers free services to help you build job skills and find employment. For more information on FoodShare or the FSET program:

- Go to www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare/index.htm.
- Contact your local agency.

To find your agency, go to www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forwardhealth/resources.htm, see page 2 of this fact sheet, or call Member Services at 800-362-3002 (TTY and translation services are available).

Note: The FoodShare work requirement is different from FoodShare basic work rules. Refer to FoodShare Basic Work Rules for FoodShare Applicants and Members Ages 16 Through 59 (P-01692) for more details about basic work rules. The fact sheet is available at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p0/p01692.pdf.



Income Maintenance Consortiums and Tribal Agencies Contact Information

Income maintenance consortiums (often called agencies) and tribal agencies can help you with eligibility services for programs like Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and FoodShare. The table below lists income maintenance consortiums and tribal agencies alphabetically and includes telephone numbers as well as the counties that make up each consortium. If you have questions about your eligibility or case, call the consortium that represents your county or your tribal agency.

Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians	715-682-7127
Bay Lake	888-794-5747
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brown • Door • Marinette • Oconto • Shawano 	
Capital	888-794-5556
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adams • Columbia • Dane • Dodge • Juneau • Richland • Sauk • Sheboygan 	
Central	888-445-1621
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Langlade • Marathon • Oneida • Portage 	
East Central Income Maintenance Partnership	888-256-4563
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calumet • Green Lake • Kewaunee • Manitowoc • Marquette • Outagamie • Waupaca • Waushara • Winnebago 	
Forest County Potawatomi Community	715-478-4433
Great Rivers	888-283-0012
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barron • Burnett • Chippewa • Douglas • Dunn • Eau Claire • Pierce • Polk • St. Croix • Washburn 	
Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin	715-634-8934
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians	715-588-4235
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin	715-799-5137
Milwaukee Enrollment Services (MiES)	888-947-6583
Milwaukee	
Moraine Lakes	888-446-1239
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fond du Lac • Ozaukee • Walworth • Washington • Waukesha 	
Northern	888-794-5722
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashland • Bayfield • Florence • Forest • Iron • Lincoln • Price • Rusk • Sawyer • Taylor • Vilas • Wood 	
Oneida Nation	800-216-3216
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	715-779-3706
Sokaogon Chippewa Community	715-478-3265
Southern	888-794-5780
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crawford • Grant • Green • Iowa • Jefferson • Lafayette • Rock 	
Stockbridge-Munsee Community	715-793-4032
Western Region for Economic Assistance	888-627-0430
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffalo • Clark • Jackson • La Crosse • Monroe • Pepin • Trempealeau • Vernon 	
Wisconsin's Kenosha Racine Partnership (WKRP)	888-794-5820
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenosha • Racine 	

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) state or local agencies, and their subrecipients, must post the following Nondiscrimination Statement:

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the agency (state or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (833) 620-1071, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to:

1. **mail:**
Food and Nutrition Service, USDA
1320 Braddock Place, Room 334
Alexandria, VA 22314; or
2. **fax:**
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**
FNSCIVILRIGHTSCOMPLAINTS@usda.gov

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02/15/2023