

# Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD)

<b>WHO IS AN ABAWD?</b>	An individual that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age 18 through 49;</li> <li>• Able to work, and;</li> <li>• Does not live with a child/ren under age 18 who is included in the FNSU;</li> </ul>
<b>WHO IS EXEMPT?</b>	An individual that is exempt from work requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the age of 18 or 50 years of age or older;</li> <li>• Physically or mentally unfit for employment;</li> <li>• Pregnant;</li> <li>• Living in a household with a child/ren under 18 who is included in the FNSU;</li> <li>• Caring for a dependent adult, or;</li> <li>• In school at least half time (as defined by any recognized school, training program, or institution of higher education).</li> </ul>
<b>BENEFIT PERIOD</b>	An ABAWD can receive FNS benefits for 3 months out of a 36 month period. The current period begins January 01, 2016 and ends December 31, 2018. The first 3 months do not have to be continual and a prorated month does not count.
<b>ABAWD WORK REQUIREMENTS</b>	Working an average of 20 hours per week (80 hours per month). <b>NOTE:</b> If work hours fall under 20 hours per week, it is a reportable change. Participating in a work program such as Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), an average of 20 or more hours per week. Volunteering with an approved public or private agency an average of 20 or more hours per week (80 hours per month). Participating an average of 20 hours per week in an Employment and Training (E&T) program that includes qualifying ABAWD activities, as long as job search and/or job search training is less than half the requirement of the program. Working, participating in a work program such as WIOA or E&T, and/or volunteering with a public or private agency for a combined total of an average 20 hours per week (80 hours per month).
<b>QUALIFYING ABAWD ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>WIOA Program:</b> (Formerly known as WIA) Aims to increase opportunities for employment, education, and training (an average of 20 hours required). <b>Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA):</b> Provides aid to workers who have lost their jobs as a result of foreign trade (an average of 20 hours required). <b>FNS E&amp;T Program (Not mandatory):</b> Assist in obtaining employment through work-related education, training and work experience activities (average of 20 hrs req). <b>FNS E&amp;T Work Experience:</b> Designed to improve the employability of participants through actual work experience and/or training; placements can be with private, for-profit companies (an average of 20 hours, alone or combined with other activities). Mandatory unpaid work hours equal to the result obtained by dividing a household's FNS allotment by the Federal or State minimum wage). <b>FNS E&amp;T Education/Training:</b> Aims to improve basic skills or employability and have a direct link to employment (an average of 20 hours alone or combined with other activities). Participating in Work First Employment Services Receiving unemployment insurance benefits (UIB) Participating in Refugee Cash Assistance Work program
<b>REGAINING ELIGIBILITY</b>	A person can regain eligibility (36 month period) if, during a 30 day period, they worked 80 hrs. per month or participated in work program or combination.
<b>ONE TIME THREE MONTH EXTENSION</b>	A person who regains eligibility and is no longer meeting the work requirement can be eligible for 3 more consecutive months (cannot be staggered) of FNS benefits.