

# **ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY**

Program: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training

Policy: Work Requirement Suspension COVID-19

Effective Date: April 01, 2020

Revision: 1

## **I. Policy Statement**

In response to a federal declaration of emergency and guidance issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, and provisions contained in the enacted Families First Coronavirus Response Act, this policy institutes a general waiver of work requirements for all participants in the SNAP Employment and Training Program.

## **II. Applicability**

Unless otherwise noted, this policy applies to all SNAP Employment and Training participants. The provisions of this policy apply as of April 1, 2020.

## **III. Authority**

[Food and Nutrition Act of 2008](#)

[Family First Coronavirus Response Act](#)

[Implementation Memo: SNAP FFCRA and Impact on Time Limit for ABAWDs](#)

[Section 319 of the Public Health Service Act \(42 U.S.C. 247d \(a\)\)](#)

## **IV. Acronyms and Definitions**

**AZTECS** - Arizona Technical Eligibility Computer System

**ABAWD** - Able-bodied Adult Without Dependents

**FAA** - Family Assistance Administration

**JAS** - Jobs Automated System

**SNAP E&T** - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Employment & Training

**WIOA** - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

## **V. Standards**

### **A. Waiver of Work Requirements**

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1. During the duration of the declared COVID-19 Public Health Crisis, by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act, SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) work requirements have been temporarily suspended and benefits will not be impacted.
2. The suspension of work requirements will begin on April 1, 2020 and last through one full month following the end of the public health crisis.
3. Participants can voluntarily seek services and are encouraged to participate in the SNAP E&T program through virtual service delivery methods for the duration of the public health crisis.
4. [SNAP E&T services](#) can be accessed via phone, email or website.
  - a. SNAP E&T staff can be reached at 833-762-8196 or [easnaet@azdes.gov](mailto:easnaet@azdes.gov).
  - b. Job search resources and information can be accessed online at <https://arizonaatwork.com/>.
  - c. Additional SNAP E&T services are available through local community organizations within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Career Advancement Network. For more information, visit [www.azdes.gov](http://www.azdes.gov) and type SNAP CAN into the search bar.

## **VI. Procedure**

### **A. Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs)**

1. The time-limit for ABAWDs receiving SNAP benefits has been suspended.
2. ABAWDs will not be disqualified from receiving benefits for noncompliance of work requirements and will not receive countable months toward their time limit during the public health crisis.
3. The Family Assistance Administration (FAA) will continue to screen ABAWDs and apply exemptions as applicable. All ABAWDs will

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receive an exemption from participation in the SNAP E&T program for the duration of the public health crisis.

**B. SNAP Employment & Training**

1. Work requirements for SNAP E&T have been suspended and participants will not be disqualified for non-compliance.
2. FAA staff will continue to key the appropriate referral codes in AZTECS, but participation in SNAP E&T is not required.
3. If a participant is unable to meet SNAP E&T program requirements due to a COVID-19 limitation, SNAP E&T program staff can determine good cause for non-compliance exists and notate the participant's JAS case file with the good cause reason for non-compliance as COVID-19 Public Health Crisis. No further action is required.