

SNAP Work Exemptions Reference Chart

General Rules & ABAWD

Individuals who are exempt from **General SNAP** work requirements are usually exempt from **Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD)** work requirements. In some situations, an ABAWD exemption must still be determined separately because certain considerations are not fully aligned with General SNAP exemptions.

Chart Terminology

- **General & ABAWD** = Exempt from General SNAP work requirements and therefore also exempt from ABAWD work requirements
- **General Only** = Exempt from General SNAP rules, BUT ABAWD must be evaluated separately
- **ABAWD Only** = Exempt from ABAWD, but not General SNAP work rules

Category	Exempt Group	Work Rule Exemption	Documenting the Exemption
Age-Related Exemption	Under the age 18	General & ABAWD	• No separate documentation beyond age verification is required.
	Age 60 through 64	General Only	
	Age 65 or older	General & ABAWD	
Students	Students age 16 or 17 who are in school	General & ABAWD	• School records, report card, school schedule, attendance record, or a statement from the school confirming enrollment.
Students Attending an Institution of Higher Education	Students age 18-49 who are enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher education AND who meet a SNAP student exemption, are exempt from SNAP work requirements, see below. Student Exemption: In general, students aged 18-49, enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher education are not eligible for SNAP benefits. However, there are exceptions to this rule, indicated in this student exemptions check list.	General & ABAWD	• Students who satisfy the “student exemption” should not get a notice to comply with work rules. • If the student exemption is not met, then the student is ineligible for SNAP.

	"Student exemptions" refers to basic eligibility for SNAP , NOT work rules.		
Individuals NOT Attending an Institution of Higher Education	Individuals (of any age) enrolled at least half-time in a recognized school or training program that is not an institution of higher education (e.g., high school, GED/HSE program, ESL, workforce training) Note: This group does NOT have to meet a "student exemption"	General & ABAWD	• FIA-1021y (E); or • Attendance record, enrollment verification, class schedule, or statement from the school or training provider showing enrollment at least half-time.
Students Age 50 and over	Age 50 or older enrolled at least half-time in any recognized school, training program, or institution of higher education. This can include college or GED programs. Those who are in a program or class that does NOT fall into this category will need 80 hours per month (this could be a combination of activities) Note: This group does NOT have to meet a "student exemption"	General & ABAWD	• Attendance record, statement from college/training program; or • Completing FIA-1021y (E) (this form is obtained by and handed in to a PACE provider).
Caretaker Responsibility	Caring for a child under age 6 (the child must be part of the SNAP household). If there are two parents and one child, only one of the parents can get the exemption, not both.	General & ABAWD	• Since the child is part of the SNAP case, no further documentation is required. • However, if a child needs to be added, additional supporting documentation is needed to add a new household member.

	Caring for an incapacitated person of any age (not required to live in the dwelling or be part of the SNAP household).	General & ABAWD	• Doctor verification of the person who is incapacitated if the person is in the SNAP household. • If the caregiver assists a person outside the SNAP household, a self-attestation with details should suffice; HRA will follow up if needed.
Living with a child under 14	SNAP households that include a child under 14 - OR includes a child under 14 who would have been a member of the SNAP household but is ineligible to participate in SNAP.	ABAWD Only	• If the child is part of the SNAP household, no further documentation is required. • However, if a child needs to be added, additional supporting documentation is needed to add a new household member.
Health, Disability, or Treatment	Someone with a physical or mental health condition that limits their ability to work. A diagnosis or formal disability determination is not required. HRA may also determine that a person appears unable to work based on available information.	General & ABAWD	• Complete ABAWD Medical Statement. This can be completed by a physician, physician's assistant, licensed or certified psychologist, substance use counselor, certified mental health counselor, licensed certified social worker, among others.
	A recipient of disability benefits from a public or private source, such as New York State disability benefits, Veterans Affairs disability benefits, and workers comp	General & ABAWD	• Verification from employer, NYS, or other disability verification.
	Pregnant, including the month of the child's birth.	ABAWD Only	• Complete ABAWD Medical Statement signed by individual and a provider, or • Statement from doctor/hospital/clinic, etc. verifying pregnancy. • Self-attestation is sufficient, unless the information is questionable. An individual must be allowed at least 10 days to provide verification if required.

	Participating in a drug or alcohol addiction treatment program.	General & ABAWD	- Documentation from the program that the participant is attending a drug or alcohol addiction treatment program, or ABAWD Medical Statement signed by the director of the program or the individual's counselor.
	Receiving or applying for SSI or SSDI. This extends to SSI recipients in 1619(b) status. The exemption will also continue during the appeals process.	General & ABAWD	Verification from Social Security Administration of proof of application or award letter, if approved.
Cash Assistance Recipients	Households receiving Family Assistance (TANF) or Safety Net Converted assistance for a household that includes a child under age 18 and complying with Cash Assistance work requirements.	In compliance for General and ABAWD	Active Family Assistance (TANF) or Safety Net Converted case status.
Unemployment Benefits	Receiving or applying for unemployment benefits.	In compliance for General and ABAWD	UIB award letter or system verification.
Special Population	An Indian, Urban Indian, California Indian, and/or other Indian who is eligible for the Indian Health Services	ABAWD Only	- Tribal enrollment or membership card - Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) - Documentation showing eligibility for Indian Health Service benefits - Tribal government records

More will be added soon!