

SNAP TIME LIMITS AND WORK PROGRAMS

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Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

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SNAP's Three Month Time Limit



- Benefits limited to 3 months per 3 year period to an individual.
- Unless the individual:
 - is working 20 hours a week,
 - is in a qualifying job slot 20 hours a week or doing workfare, or
 - meets one of the limited exemptions

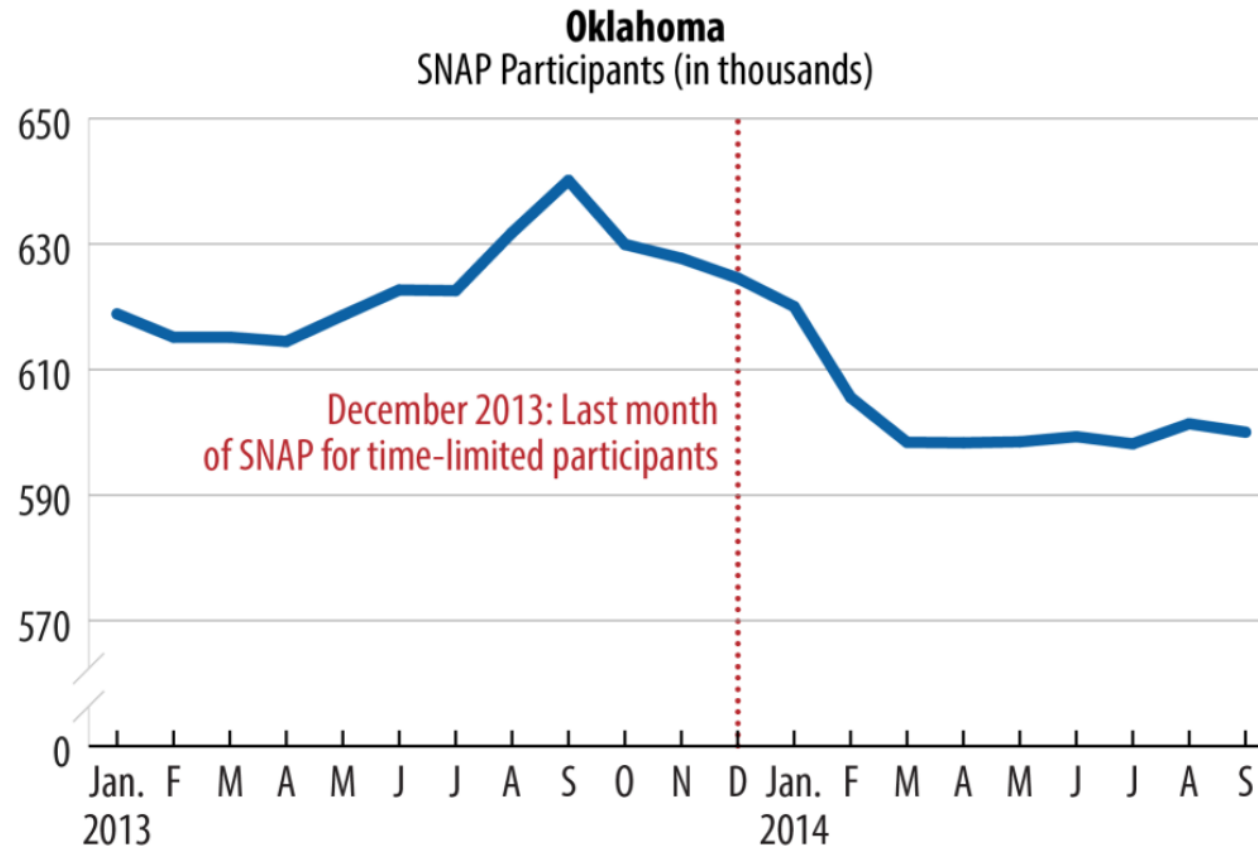


Who Is Exempt from the Rule?

- Under 18 or 50 years old or older,
- Residing in household with a member under 18,
- Pregnant,
- Physically or mentally “unfit for work”, or
- Already exempt from SNAP work requirements
 - Responsible for the care of a child under 6 or an incapacitated person,
 - Receiving (or applied for) unemployment compensation,
 - Participating in a drug or alcohol rehab program, or
 - Is a student enrolled at least half time.



Time Limit Results in a Participation Drop

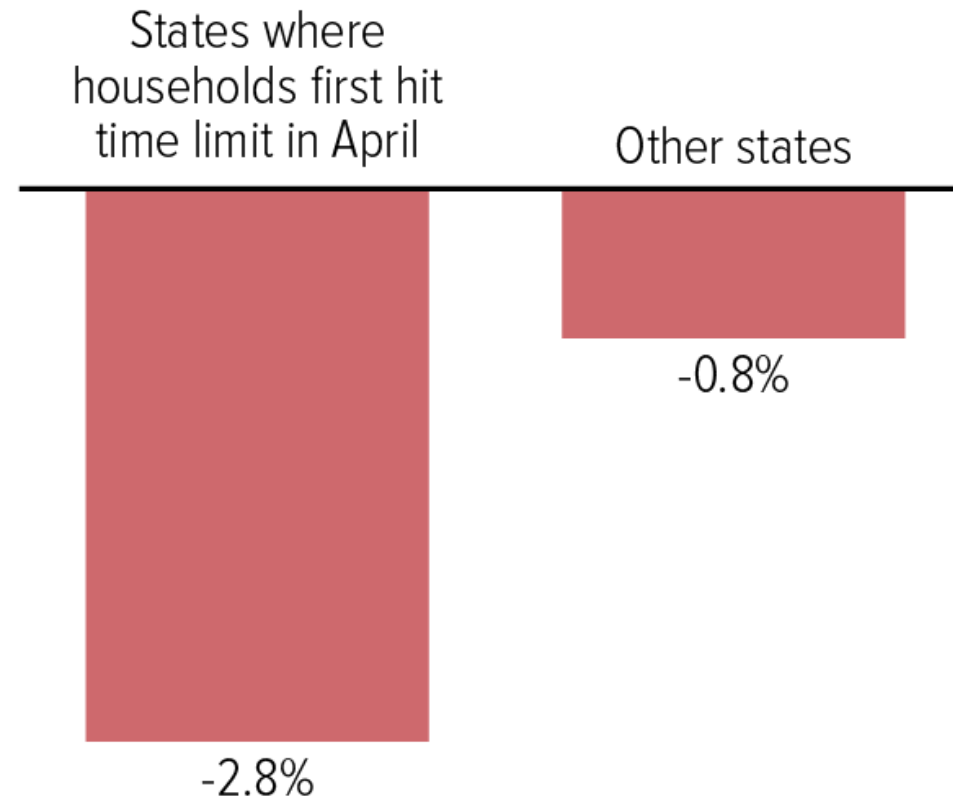


Source: Agriculture Department SNAP participation data



Bigger SNAP Declines in States Newly Imposing Time Limits

Change in SNAP participants, March-April 2016

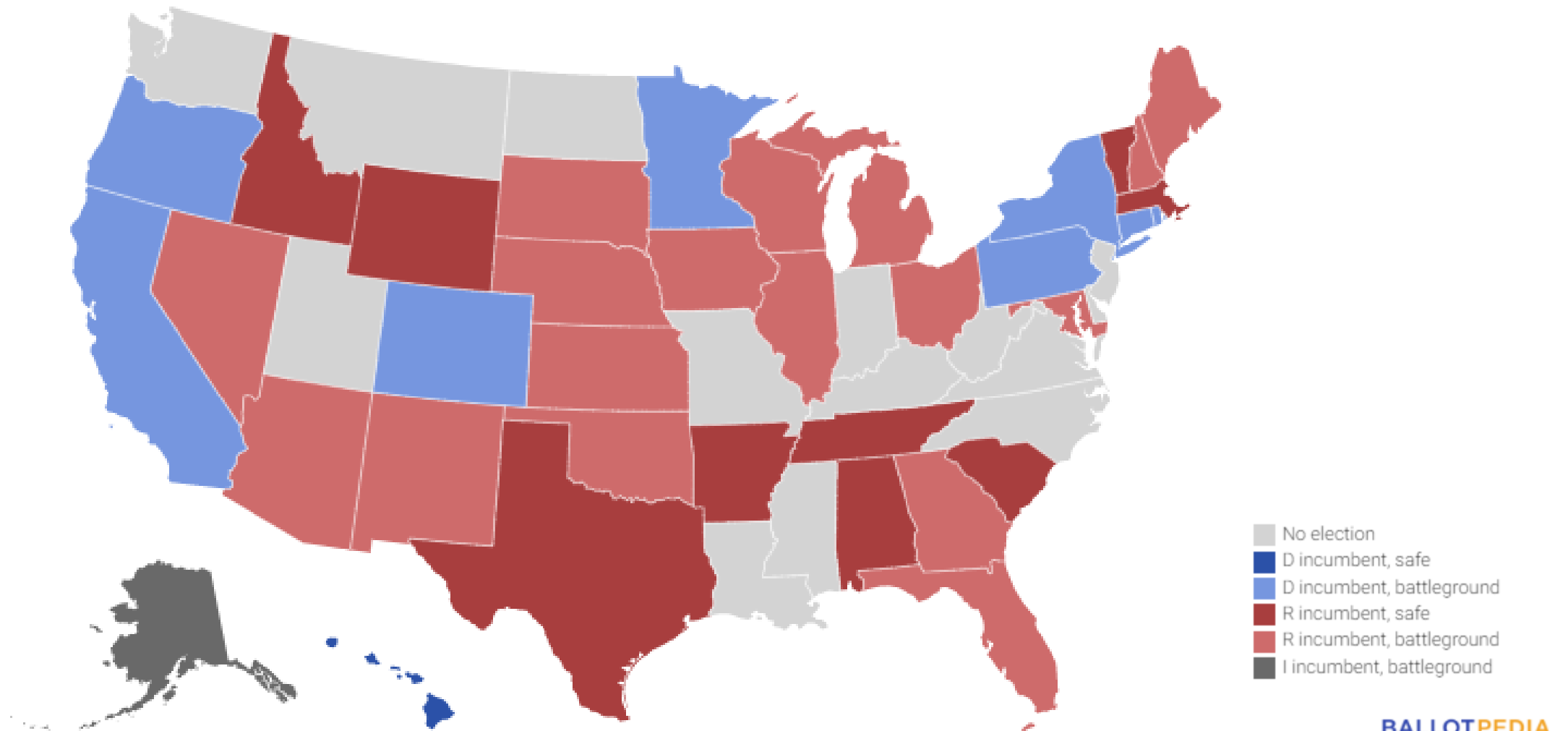


Note: Excludes Louisiana and Kentucky due to one-month anomalies.

Source: CBPP analysis of Agriculture Department data

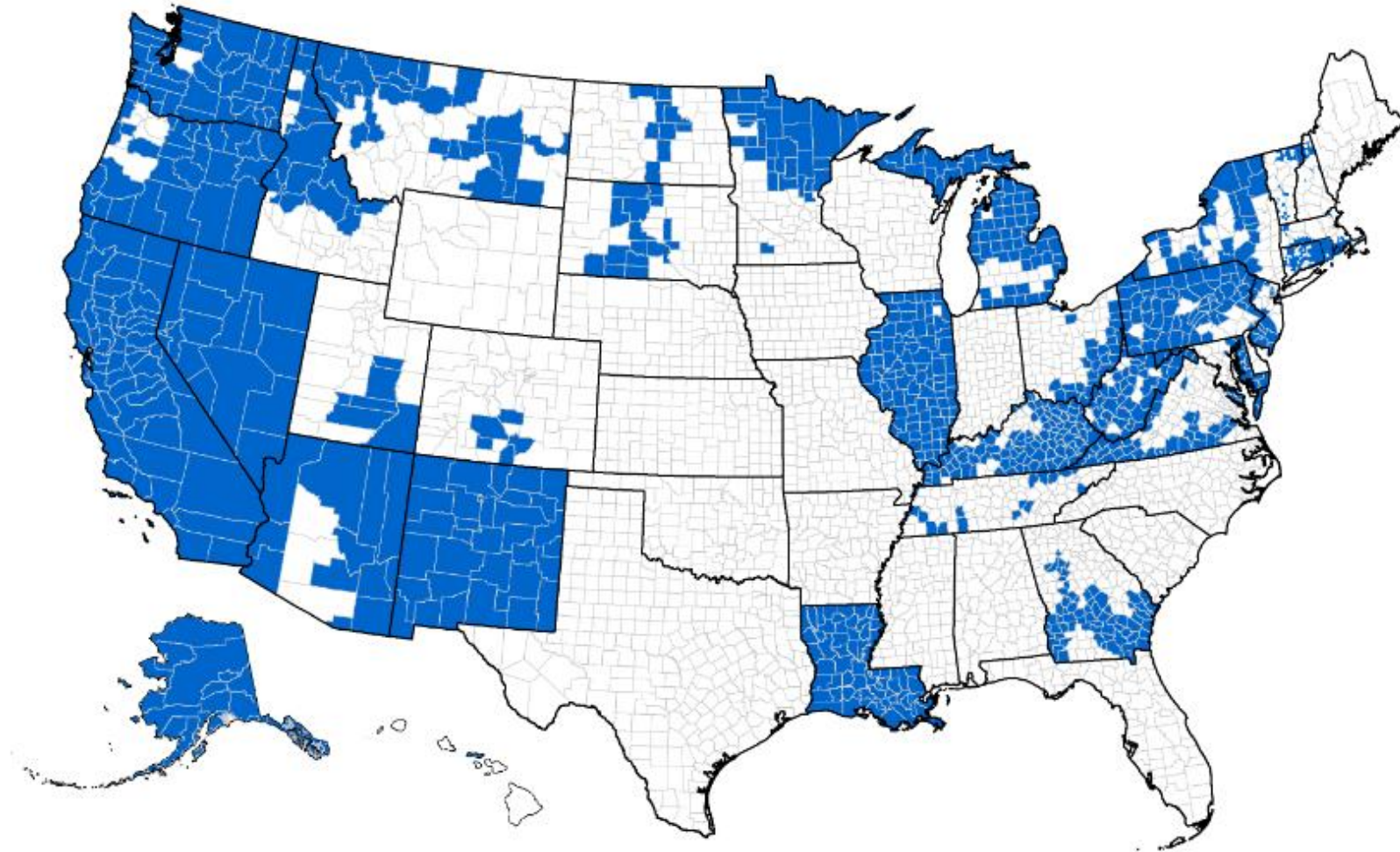


Opportunities with New Leadership





Areas Waived from the Time Limit 2018



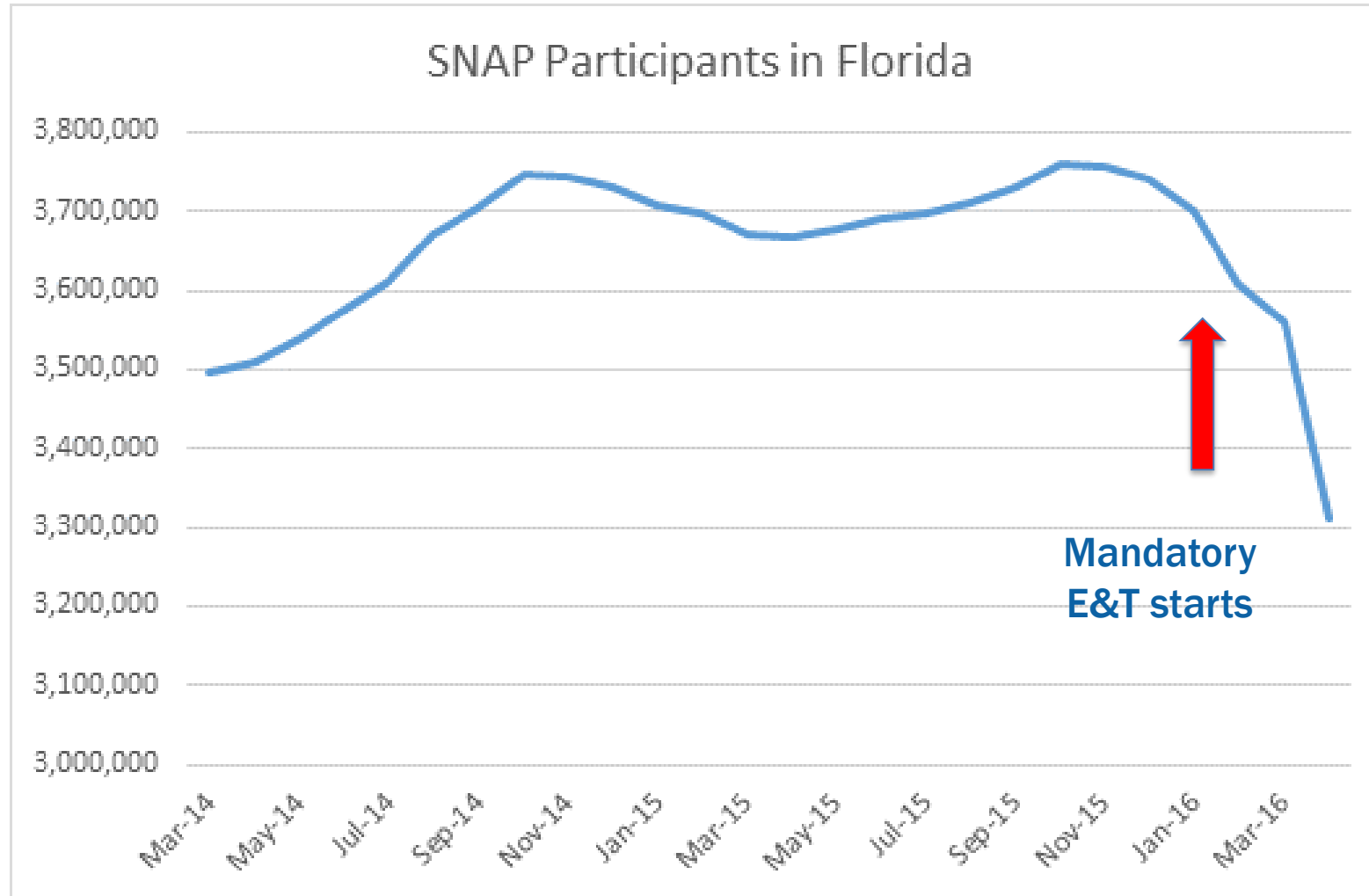


SNAP Employment and Training

Activity	Participants	Percent
Job search	325,000	49
Job search training	110,400	17
Workfare	84,800	13
Work experience	65,000	10
Education (Adult Basic Ed, GED, ESL, higher education)	26,700	4
Training (on-the-job, vocational)	31,800	5
Workforce Investment Act programs	1,200	<1
Job retention up to 90 days	10,700	2
Total	655,600	



Mandatory or Voluntary





Key Policy Issue: Who is Subject to the Rule?

E&T Exemptions

- Under 16 or over 59 years old
- Physically or mentally unfit for work
- Receiving (or applied for) unemployment insurance
- Subject to TANF or other program work requirements
- Caring for child under 6 or incapacitated person
- Participating in drug or alcohol treatment program
- Employed 30 hours per week
- An eligible student enrolled at least half time

Time Limit Exemptions

- Under 18 or 50 years old or older,
- Residing in household with a member under 18,
- Pregnant,
- Physically or mentally “unfit for work”, or
- Already exempt from SNAP work requirements
 - Responsible for the care of a child under 6 or an incapacitated person,
 - Receiving (or applied for) unemployment compensation,
 - Participating in a drug or alcohol rehab program, or
 - Eligible student enrolled at least half time.



Challenges to Implementing

Carefully identifying individuals clients

- Unfit for work
- Homeless

Documenting requirements monthly

- Capturing all work activity
- Individuals struggle to obtain verification

Communicating with individuals

- Clear forms and notices

Engaging those subject to the rule



Who Needs to Know? Who Can Help?






Informing and Educating Community Partners

Fliers from NY and PA anti-hunger groups


SNAP ABAWD Time Limit Fact Sheet

Starting in May, up to 43,000 unemployed New Yorkers could lose their SNAP benefits.

The federal **Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) Time Limit Rule** places a limit on how long certain individuals are eligible to participate in SNAP. Those considered "ABAWDs" may only receive SNAP benefits for a total of three full months, for the 36-month period beginning January 1, 2016, and ending December 31, 2018, unless they live in a waived area, meet an exemption, or are already meeting work requirements (see reverse).



SNAP Time Limit for ABAWDs: What Community Groups Should Know



The federal SNAP (food stamp) time limits for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) go back into effect January 1, 2016 in Pennsylvania. This is a federal law that was suspended for many years. Individuals considered "ABAWDs" may only receive SNAP benefits for a total of 3 full months within a 36 month period—unless the person meets an "exemption" or complies with certain work requirements.

Who is an ABAWD?

An ABAWD is an able-bodied adult between 18 and 49 years old who is not disabled, pregnant, or living in a household with minor children. Persons under age 18 or age 50 or older are not subject to this rule.

Who is exempt from the time limit?

Web sites and webinars

HUNGER SOLUTIONS NEW YORK

Hunger in NYS What We Do Information & Resources News & Action Center About Us

ABAWD

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SNAP time limits for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents went back into effect on January 1, 2016.

This page is designed to help community organizations working with SNAP recipients

SNAP Policy Training: Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs)

UNDERSTANDING THE NEW SNAP TIME LIMIT AND ITS IMPACT IN MARYLAND

RACHEL TUCKER

MARYLAND HUNGER SOLUTIONS



Involving the Broader Community

Provider Network Fax Blast
Monday, December 21, 2015



Provider Notification

You Can Help Low-Income Single Adults Keep their Food Benefits

SNAP benefits (formerly food stamps) allow low-income people to buy the food they need to stay healthy. Many patients and CeliCare Health members (single adults ages 18-50) are considered Able-bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs). **They are at risk of losing their SNAP benefits** (food stamps) because of a reinstated federal rule that goes into effect on January 1, 2016. The rule limits SNAP benefits to 3 months in a 3 year period - unless your patient meets an exemption or certain work rules.

With just a few minutes of your time, we can easily help. Many ABAWDs may be homeless, lacking regular health care, disabled or unable to work. If you are working with a patient who fits this description, you can easily help him or her in the following ways:

- If the patient is **homeless**, you can help the patient call the Department of Transitional Assistance



Helping to Protect People Not Subject to the Time Limit

SNAP ABAWD Time Limit Checklist

The federal SNAP time limits for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) went back into effect January 1, 2016 in Massachusetts. An ABAWD is someone between the ages of 18 and 49 who is not disabled, pregnant or living with minor children.

An ABAWD can only get 3 full months of SNAP in a 36-month period—unless s/he lives in a **waived part of MA**, meets an **exemption**, or is meeting certain hours in **qualifying work activities**.

If a SNAP recipient is getting letters from DTA about ABAWD requirements, check below to see if they are exempt or, if not, how to meet the work requirements. Follow the corresponding Client Action item to make sure SNAP benefits will not be interrupted.

Exemptions

☐ Under age 18 or 50 and older

CLIENT ACTION → DTA has already exempted ABAWDs based on age. DTA should know when people turn 50 and become exempt. If you turn 50, call DTA to keep your SNAP or to get back on.

☐ Physically or mentally unable to work 20 hours per week

Many ABAWDs are not actually “able-bodied,” but DTA may not know if the person does not get a disability benefit. An ABAWD can be exempt from the three month time limit if s/he has a physical or mental condition that “*reduces their ability to work*.” Being determined to be unfit for work has a much lower standard of unfitness than SSI and does not require a specific diagnosis or submission of medical test results.

CLIENT ACTION → Have a health care provider fill out DTA’s **ABAWD medical report form**. It can be signed by many health care providers, including:

- Doctor, doctor’s assistant or representative of a doctor’s office
- Nurse practitioner
- Licensed or certified psychologist
- Licensed social worker
- Osteopath
- Certified mental health counselor
- Certified midwife



Informing and Educating Clients

URGENT

**MANHATTAN RESIDENTS:
ARE YOU 18-49 YEARS OF AGE?
YOUR SNAP BENEFITS MAY HAVE TIME LIMITS!**

Starting **April 1st** many unemployed New Yorkers living on or below West 110th or East 96th Street will lose their SNAP Benefits

YOU MAY BE EXEMPT IF YOU ARE:

- Unable to work for at least 80 hours per month due to a physical or mental limitation
- Pregnant, disabled, ill or injured

APRIL 2016

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**SNAP 3-Month Time Limit:
What You Need to Know**

Beginning January 1, 2016, the federal SNAP time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) went back into effect in Pennsylvania. The time limit does not apply to many counties in Pennsylvania.

As of January 1, 2016, an ABAWD can only get 3 full months of SNAP in a 36-month period—unless s/he lives in a **waived part of PA**, meets an **exemption**, or is meeting certain hours in **qualifying work activities**. To see a list of waived areas in Pennsylvania, visit <https://clsphila.org/abawds>.

If you are getting letters from the Department of Human Services (DHS) about ABAWD requirements, check below to see if you can be found exempt or, if not, how to meet the work requirements. Follow the **Action** item to make sure you can keep your SNAP benefits.

Who is exempt?

you meet any of the following:

ATTENTION!

Rules for the Food Supplement Program (FSP/SNAP, formerly food stamps), which helps low-income Marylanders buy food, have changed effective January 1, 2016

Under federal law, "able bodied adults without dependents" (ABAWDs) can only get FSP benefits for a **maximum of 3 months** in a 3 year period unless they are exempt or participating in an approved work activity.

People that may be affected are:

- Living in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, *Frederick, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's and *Washington Counties
- Between the ages of 18-49



Documenting the Real Life Impacts



Thousands in metro area no longer eligible for food stamps

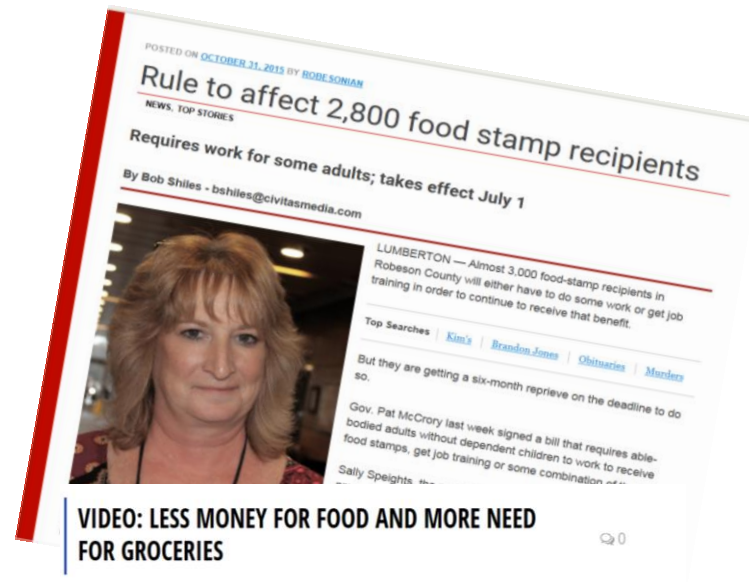
by: Sophia Choi Updated: Jun 7, 2016 - 6:48 PM



COBB COUNTY, Ga. - Thousands of Georgians are now going without food stamps because of new

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VIDEO: LESS MONEY FOR FOOD AND MORE NEED FOR GROCERIES

By: Jory Tally

Submitted: 04/05/2016 - 9:31pm

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AMORY, Miss. (WCBT) — When the new SNAP rules came out, the Amory Food Pantry had a feeling they would be adding more customers to the thousands that they already supply food for.

"We've been afraid that it will increase the need, which of course means more money for us, more groceries for us, just a larger influx of dental, but it's really a little too soon to tell, and there are still clients that don't know how it's going to affect them,"