

## SNAP WORK REQUIREMENT

# NYC FACT SHEET



*To: NYC community based organizations*

AN ESTIMATED 123,000 SNAP ABAWD'S ARE AT RISK OF LOSING THEIR SNAP BENEFIT. HERE'S HOW TO HELP YOUR SNAP ABAWD CLIENTS FULFILL THE WORK REQUIREMENT SO THEY WILL NOT LOSE THEIR SNAP MONTHLY CASH BENEFIT.

- 1. Effective March 1:** all NYS SNAP Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) must now comply with the time limits work requirement. What has received little publicity is the community volunteer option. Your SNAP ABAWD clients can fulfill work requirement by volunteering at a community based organization (CBO) for just three to four hours a week. Larger CBO's can help coordinate volunteer opportunities in the communities they serve.
- 2. Volunteer now!** A SNAP ABAWD can continue to get their SNAP cash benefit when they volunteer for a few hours a week at a local community organization (including but not limited to churches, mosques, synagogues, senior centers, food pantries, homeless shelters, afterschool programs). **Volunteer hours formula:** average monthly SNAP benefit of \$190 divided by NYS minimum wage \$16 an hour = 12 hours per month. *What's needed now is for community organizations to offer volunteer opportunities!*
- 3. Next Steps:** Let CBO's know about how they can partner with NYC-Human Resources Administration (NYC-HRA) to offer community service volunteer engagement opportunities to support SNAP recipients' compliance with work requirements. First Step: *complete the HRA Self-Enrolled Voluntary Service Provider (SEVSP) online inquiry form which can be accessed [HERE](#).*
- 4. Self enrollment option:** New York State-Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (NYS-OTDA) prepared a [form](#) that community based organizations can use to track volunteer hours. SNAP ABAWD's can self-enroll themselves to a neighborhood community organization. The community organization can use this [form](#) to track weekly volunteer hours and sign the form. The form can be given to the NYC-HRA caseworker to confirm an ABAWD's compliance with the SNAP work requirement.

## **NYS-OTDA and NYC-HRA BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

NYC-Human Resources Administration (HRA): To keep getting SNAP benefits for more than three (3) months in the 3-year period, each ABAWD must follow the ABAWD work rules by:

1. Spending at least 80 hours every month (20 hours per week) doing one or more of the following:
  - Working (including “in-kind” work);
  - Participating in a qualifying work/training program approved by HRA;
  - Participating in a combination of work or qualifying work programs.

OR 2. Participating in a work experience activity approved by HRA or volunteering in a community service activity for the number of hours per month equal to the household’s SNAP benefit divided by the State minimum wage.



### **Are You Exempt? You may not need to meet the ABAWD work rules if you are:**

- Younger than age 18, or age 65 or older
- Living with a child under 14
- A recipient of disability benefits from a public or private source, such as New York State disability benefits
- Pregnant
- Someone with a physical or mental health condition that limits your ability to work • Taking care of an incapacitated person
- Meeting the work rules under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
- Receiving or applying for unemployment benefits
- Participating in a drug or alcohol addiction treatment program
- Going to school, college, or a training program at least half time (students may be subject to other eligibility rules)
- Already working at least 30 hours a week
- Already earning \$217.50 (30 times the federal minimum wage) or more a week,
- Receiving or applying for SSI
- An Indian, Urban Indian, California Indian, and/or other Indian who is eligible for the Indian Health Services

**For full explanation of SNAP work requirements:**

<https://otda.ny.gov/programs/snap/work-requirements.asp>

