



Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

APR 29 2015

Park Office  
Center

3101 Park  
Center Drive  
Alexandria  
VA 22302

SUBJECT: SNAP – Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Allocations of 15 Percent Exemptions for Able Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) – Adjusted for Carryover

TO: All Regional Directors  
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 limits the eligibility of able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to 3 months in any 36-month period, unless an individual meets the ABAWD work requirement or is otherwise exempt. The law also provides each State agency with an annual allocation of exemptions from time-limited participation for ABAWDs.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) issued a memorandum on October 20, 2014, that advised State agencies of the number of new 15 percent ABAWD exemptions allocated to them for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015. Many State agencies did not earn new exemptions because they had Statewide waivers of the ABAWD time limit in FY 2014. This memorandum provides the total number of exemptions available to each State for FY 2015, including carryover from previous years and exemptions used in FY 2014 (as reported on each State's FNS-583 SNAP Employment and Training Activity Report, due 45 days after the close of the report period). Because no States experienced a caseload increase of over 10 percent, there are no adjustments to the FY 2015 exemption allocations provided in October 2014.

As the economy continues to recover, few States are anticipated to be eligible to extend their Statewide waivers beyond calendar year 2015. States should strongly consider using 15 percent exemptions as they transition off of a Statewide waiver. For example, States with a sufficient number of exemptions may use them to exempt all ABAWDs from the time limit until the next contact with the household (e.g., periodic report or recertification). However, the application of each 15 percent exemption must be documented in the case file. For Quality Control purposes, the exemption must be documented prior to monthly sample selection.

All Regional Directors  
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If you have any questions concerning this memorandum, please contact Casey McConnell at [Casey.McConnell@fns.usda.gov](mailto:Casey.McConnell@fns.usda.gov) or Eliot Kriviski at [Eliot.Kriviski@fns.usda.gov](mailto:Eliot.Kriviski@fns.usda.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sasha Gersten-Paal", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Sasha Gersten-Paal  
Chief  
Certification Policy Branch  
Program Development Division

Attachment

**ABAWD 15 Percent Exemptions for FY 2015 – INCLUDING CARRYOVER**

<b>State</b>	<b>Final FY 2014 Exemptions Adjusted for Carryover</b>	<b>Exemptions Used in FY 2014</b>	<b>Exemptions Earned for FY 2015</b>	<b>Total Number of ABAWD 15% Exemptions for FY 2015 Adjusted for Carryover</b>
Alabama	61,605	0	0	61,605
Alaska	9,466	0	0	9,466
Arizona	48,415	0	0	48,415
Arkansas	67,195	0	0	67,195
California	866,894	0	0	866,894
Colorado	18,451	2,036	6,057	22,472
Connecticut	5,839	0	0	5,839
Delaware	42,720	0	5,486	48,206
Dist. of Col.	0	0	0	0
Florida*	-2,904	0	0	-2,904
Georgia	61,515	0	0	61,515
Guam	2,959	0	513	3,472
Hawaii	27,089	0	0	27,089
Idaho	28,052	0	0	28,052
Illinois	51,341	0	0	51,341
Indiana	109,106	0	0	109,106
Iowa	45,321	0	15,347	60,668
Kansas	14,178	0	10,448	24,626
Kentucky	57,760	0	0	57,760
Louisiana	13,811	0	0	13,811
Maine	0	0	0	0
Maryland	18,915	0	0	18,915
Massachusetts	15,441	0	0	15,441
Michigan	483,013	0	0	483,013
Minnesota	86,654	0	24,004	110,658
Mississippi	54,807	0	0	54,807
Missouri	0	0	0	0
Montana	22,944	0	0	22,944
Nebraska	41,081	0	7,358	48,439
Nevada	59,366	0	0	59,366
New Hampshire	1,117	63	2,086	3,140
New Jersey	76,390	0	0	76,390
New Mexico*	-1,868	0	0	-1,868
New York	226,181	80,873	0	145,308
North Carolina	0	0	0	0

<b>State</b>	<b>Final FY 2014 Exemptions Adjusted for Carryover</b>	<b>Exemptions Used in FY 2014</b>	<b>Exemptions Earned for FY 2015</b>	<b>Total Number of ABAWD 15% Exemptions for FY 2015 Adjusted for Carryover</b>
North Dakota	7,275	0	2,803	10,078
Ohio	405,286	0	79,341	484,627
Oklahoma	215,942	33,065	34,350	217,227
Oregon	60,688	0	0	60,688
Pennsylvania	105,388	0	0	105,388
Rhode Island	8,390	0	0	8,390
South Carolina	0	0	0	0
South Dakota	4,601	4,005	3,057	3,653
Tennessee	42,990	0	0	42,990
Texas	1,408,258	31,352	151,559	1,528,465
Utah	9,587	56	6,977	16,508
Vermont*	-3,635	5,661	6,941	-2,355
Virginia	238,722	69,269	60,121	229,574
Virgin Islands	3,948	0	0	3,948
Washington	11,530	0	0	11,530
West Virginia	111,011	0	0	111,011
Wisconsin	55,676	7,609	3,119	51,186
Wyoming	22,672	0	2,510	25,182

*\*Florida and New Mexico overused 15 percent exemptions in the first and second quarters of FY 2009, prior to the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Vermont overused 15 percent exemptions in FY 2013. These States cannot use 15 percent exemptions until their negative balances are eliminated.*