

Work Requirements

- A parent, or other member of the AG who has the responsibility for the care of a child under the age of 6, or of an incapacitated and/or disabled individual. The person receiving the care is not required to reside with the AG or be a member of the Food Stamp AG. Unborn children are not considered children under the age of 6.

Separate families included in the same AG may have one person from each family exempted. Separate families, not in the same AG, but living together, may also have one person from each family exempted.

EXAMPLE: Two sisters live together and are in the same AG. They each have two children under age 6. Both women may be exempt for caring for a child under age 6.

EXAMPLE: A man and woman apply for Food Stamp benefits. They have one child, age 5. The man receives RSDI based on his disability and is, therefore, exempt from the Food Stamp work requirements. He is, however, able to care for the child, so the mother is not exempt from the requirements.

NOTE: An individual needed to care for an incapacitated person becomes subject to the Food Stamp work requirements within 10 calendar days after reporting a change, such as when the disabled person recovers or leaves the home. When an AG member is exempt because of the age of a child, and the child has his 6th birthday during the certification period, the individual becomes subject to the Food Stamp work requirements at the next regularly scheduled redetermination, unless exempt for some other reason.

- Individuals receiving UCI, as a result of registering with BEP. This includes persons receiving benefits under the Trade Readjustment Act (TRA).

When a client reports the loss of UCI income, the Worker must evaluate the circumstances to determine if a penalty must be applied. A penalty is applied when the individual is exempt from Food Stamp work requirement due solely to the fact that the client was registered with BEP, unless another exemption is met. Good cause for failure to comply with UCI requirements include all situations described in Section 13.3,C for voluntarily quit.

If an individual's UCI benefits are suspended, he becomes subject to the Food Stamp work requirements 10 calendar days after the change is reported, unless a Food Stamp penalty is applied, or unless exempt for some other reason.

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- Individuals who are physically or mentally unfit to engage in full-time employment. See Section 12.15. Should the client become able to work, he becomes subject to the Food Stamp work requirements at the next redetermination, unless exempt for some other reason.
- Regular participants in a drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation program, either on a resident or non-resident basis. Any person leaving the treatment program becomes subject to the Food Stamp work requirements 10 calendar days after the change is reported, unless exempt for some other reason.
- Individuals who are employed or self-employed and working a minimum of 30 hours per week, or receiving weekly earnings equal to the federal minimum wage multiplied by 30 hours. When the client is employed or self-employed for at least 30 hours per week, no consideration is given to the amount earned.

An employed person who is laid off, fired, goes on strike, quits or changes to employment of less than 30 hours per week, or ceases earning wages equal to the federal minimum wage multiplied by 30, becomes subject to the Food Stamp work requirements 10 calendar days after the change is reported, unless a Food Stamp penalty is applied or the client is exempt for some other reason.

- Individuals who receive WV WORKS **and do not meet any of the other Food Stamp exemptions listed above**, so long as they are subject to and complying with a WV WORKS work requirement. These individuals would be required to meet **the** Food Stamp work requirements **if they did not receive WV WORKS**. When an individual who is exempt only for this reason becomes exempt from WV WORKS work requirements, he is also considered exempt from Food Stamp work requirements. See Section 13.11 for the effect of a WV WORKS sanction on Food Stamp benefits.

NOTE: When a WV WORKS recipient who is exempt for this reason, loses eligibility for WV WORKS, he must be meet the appropriate FS work requirements no later than the 10th of the following month, **i.e., the first month he does not receive WV WORKS**.

B. FOOD STAMP WORK REQUIREMENTS FOR WV WORKS RECIPIENTS

The following requirements apply only to Food Stamp recipients who are also WV WORKS recipients. They do not apply to non-WV WORKS recipients who