

Work Requirements

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The following SNAP recipients are exempt from the SNAP work requirements and are not subject to a SNAP penalty for failure to comply.

When any recipient loses eligibility for an exemption, the Worker must determine if the client meets any other exemption criteria prior to imposing a penalty.

**If the exemption is lost during the certification period and clients are not required to report the change, they become subject to SNAP work requirements at next recertification. However, if the client reports losing the exemption, they become subject to SNAP work requirements at the time the change is reported.**

**NOTE:** See the last exemption listed below for recipients of WV WORKS who do not meet any other listed exemption.

- A person under age 16.
- A person age 16 or 17 who is not the SNAP payee or RAPIDS primary person.

**EXAMPLE:** An AG consists of two 17 year olds. One is designated as the RAPIDS primary person and SNAP payee and is, therefore, subject to the work requirements, unless another exemption is met. The other AG member is exempt from the work requirements.

- A person age 16 or 17 who is attending school or enrolled in an employment training program on at least a half-time basis.
- A person enrolled at least half-time in any recognized school, recognized training program, or institution of higher education. If enrolled in an institution of higher education, the student must meet one of the exceptions to the restriction on student participation listed in Section 9.1. This exemption continues through normal periods of vacation, unless the person does not intend to register for the next term, excluding summer terms.
- A person age 60 or over.

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- 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 SNAP 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 SNAP benefits. They have one child, age 5. The man receives RSDI based on his disability and is, therefore, exempt from the SNAP work requirements. He is, however, able to care for the child, so the mother is not exempt from the requirements.

- Individuals receiving UCI, as a result of registering with WorkForce West Virginia. 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 SNAP work requirement due solely to the fact that the client was registered with WorkForce West Virginia, unless another exemption is met. Good cause for failure to comply with UCI requirements include all situations described in Section 13.3 for voluntarily quit.

If an individual's UCI benefits are suspended, he becomes subject to the SNAP work requirements **when** the change is reported, unless a SNAP 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.
- Regular participants in a drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation program, either on a resident or non-resident basis.
- 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.
- Individuals who receive WV WORKS and do not meet any of the other SNAP 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 SNAP 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 SNAP work requirements. See Section 13.11 for the effect of a WV WORKS sanction on SNAP benefits.

**B. SNAP WORK REQUIREMENTS FOR WV WORKS RECIPIENTS**

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