

**NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA
August 21, 2012**

IM 5148

TO: County Social Service Directors
Economic Assistance Policy Regional Representatives
Economic Assistance Policy Quality Control Reviewers

FROM: Carol Cartledge, Director, Economic Assistance Policy

SUBJECT: ABAWD Waiver

PROGRAMS: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

EFFECTIVE: October 1, 2012

RETENTION: September 30, 2013

**SECTIONS
AFFECTED: 430-05-40-50-10**

Effective October 1, 2012, ABAWD provisions apply to new applications or reviews received on or after that date. When processing these new applications or reviews, if an individual is exempt from the ABAWD provisions, the appropriate exemption code must be used. **The SP code can no longer be used as an exemption reason on or after October 1, 2012.** If an individual is subject to the ABAWD provisions and not exempt, the NE or EE code, whichever is appropriate must be used.

ABAWDS in ongoing cases that are currently exempt will remain exempt until their next review. If the SP code is being used to exempt an individual, it can continue to be used until review. At review, the SP code can no longer be used as an exemption reason.

Pierce and Rolette Counties will remain exempt from the able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) provisions via waiver through September 30, 2013. Rolette County qualifies based on having an average unemployment rate exceeding 10 percent for the three month period of January-March 2012. Pierce County qualifies for a waiver based on the area's aggregate

average unemployment rate, which is at least 10 percent. No other counties in the state meet the above requirements.

Individuals initially applying in these exempt counties on October 1, 2012 or later are exempt from the ABAWD provisions.

For exempt counties when processing review applications and ongoing cases for the benefit month of November 2012, TECS will continue to default the code on ABRE for all individuals to "EX". An informational edit will appear on the ABRE screen "county exempt from ABAWDS requirement" and it will not allow the entry of any coding on this screen for any case in the above counties. The ABAWD provisions do not apply to any individual residing in these two counties.

A SNAP ABAWD e-learning training course is available and we encourage staff to review it. To register and access the course, login to PeopleSoft at:

<https://www.cnd.nd.gov/psp/strp/?cmd=login&languageCd=ENG>

- Click on "Search Catalog".
- Search the Catalog for the course titled, "SNAP ABAWDS". Once found, click 'Enroll';
- Click 'Submit Enrollment'. This places the course onto your 'My Learning' list.
- Click the 'My Learning Link' and the course will display.
- Click the course title: 'SNAP ABAWDS'.
- Click the 'launch' link.

If you come back to view the course at a later time, it will be listed in your "My Learning". You should not need to search the catalog or enroll in it again.

For help logging into the system or accessing the course, contact Tricia Bartell at 701-328-2342, or Brenda Heilman at 701-776-5361.

If you have questions, please contact your Regional Representative.