



HUMAN SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT

Presentation to the LHHS  
Brent Earnest, Deputy Secretary, HSD  
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## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

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### What is SNAP?

- ▶ SNAP provides assistance for the purchase of food to eligible, low-income residents of New Mexico.
- ▶ Households with a gross income of less than 165% of FPL are eligible
  - \$1,580/month for individuals
  - \$3,239/month for a family of four
- ▶ The maximum monthly allotment is
  - \$189 for an individual
  - \$632 for a family of four
- ▶ During SFY14, NM received more than \$636 million from the federal government for SNAP
- ▶ 454,997 people are on SNAP in NM
  - 249,711 adults
  - 205,286 children
- ▶ Monthly Statistical Report posted at <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/monthly-statistical-reports.aspx>



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### History of SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) and Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) work requirements

- ▶ New work requirements signed into law by President Bill Clinton in 1996 under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA)
- ▶ These requirements were in effect in New Mexico from 1997 until 2009, when they were suspended with the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
- ▶ Beginning October 2013, New Mexico re-implemented mandatory E&T requirements for childless adults
- ▶ Beginning October 2014, re-implementation of E&T and ABAWD requirements will go into effect - removing the 2009 waiver



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## What is E&T and ABAWD?

- ▶ There are two broad categories of recipients under the SNAP rule:
  - Employment & Training (E&T)
  - Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs)
  
- ▶ E&T: Recipients with kids
  
- ▶ ABAWD: Recipients without kids



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Who do these SNAP rules effect?

| SNAP Data                                   |         |
|---|---------|
| Number of Individuals on SNAP               | 454,997 |
| Number of Work Registrants (Adults on SNAP) | 249,711 |
| Percent of work registrants that are exempt | 65%     |
| Number of Mandatory E&T participants        | 60,430  |
| Number of Mandatory ABAWDs                  | 26,969  |



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## What are the allowable activities?

| E&T Allowable Work Activities   | ABAWD Allowable Work Activities   |
|---|---|
| <p>Recipients must complete one of the following in order to continue receiving SNAP benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Individual or Group Job Search and Employer Contacts: This is a 2 part activity that requires the completion of an individual or group job readiness class and the completion of 24 employer contacts over a 2 month period; or</li><li>• Community Service: The this activity is to provide opportunities for on-the-job skills training and work like experience. Participants needing additional experience in areas related to their occupational interest may participate in the Community Service component; or</li><li>• Job Training: The purpose of this activity is to provide opportunities for on-the-job skills training and work experience.</li></ul> | <p>Recipients must complete one of the following in order to continue receiving SNAP benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Service: This activity is to provide opportunities for on-the-job skills training and work like experience. Participants needing additional experience in areas related to their occupational interest may participate in the Community Service component; or</li><li>• Job Training: The purpose of this activity is to provide opportunities for on-the-job skills training and work experience; or</li><li>• Completing Work: This activity requires and individual to hold a job in which they work for 20 or more hours per week.</li></ul> |



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### Who is exempt from these SNAP E&T and ABAWD requirements?

| SNAP E&T Exemptions  | ABAWD Exemptions  |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Under the age of 16 or over the age of 59;</li><li>• Physically or mentally disabled;</li><li>• Complying with the work requirements of another program;</li><li>• Responsible for a child under the age of six;</li><li>• Already working more than 30 hours a week;</li><li>• Participating in a drug or alcoholic rehab program;</li><li>• Students enrolled at least half time;</li><li>• Pregnant;</li><li>• Residing in a county, tribe, pueblo or nation with than an unemployment rate greater than 10%, as defined by the department.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exempt from general SNAP work requirements;</li><li>• Under 18 or age 50 or over;</li><li>• Living in a household with a child under 18;</li><li>• Physically or mentally disabled;</li><li>• Unfit for employment;</li><li>• Pregnant;</li><li>• Residing in a county, tribe, pueblo or nation with an unemployment rate that is greater than 20% of the national average.</li></ul> |
| <p><i>Individuals that are unemployed and receiving unemployment insurance are exempt from the E&amp;T requirement.</i></p>  | <p><i>Individuals that meet an exemption for E&amp;T are also exempt from ABAWD.</i></p>  |



## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

### Who is exempt from these SNAP E&T and ABAWD requirements?

Residents in the following counties, tribes, pueblos, and nations will be exempt from the E&T requirement because the unemployment rate for the months of May 2014–July 2014 is greater than 10% (based on current data):

|                      |                  |                      |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Luna County          | Mora County      | McKinley County      |
| Acoma Pueblo         | Jemez Pueblo     | Laguna Pueblo        |
| Mescalero Apache     | Navajo Nation    | Ohkay Owingeh        |
| Picuris Pueblo       | Sandia Pueblo    | San Felipe Pueblo    |
| San Ildefonso Pueblo | Santa Ana Pueblo | Santo Domingo Pueblo |
| Zia Pueblo           |                  |                      |

Residents in the following counties, tribes, pueblos, and nations will be waived from the ABAWD requirement because the unemployment rate is 20% higher than the two-year national average (based on current data):

|                  |                      |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Guadalupe County | Luna County          | McKinley County      |
| Mora County      | Acoma Pueblo         | Pueblo de Cochiti    |
| Jemez Pueblo     | Laguna Pueblo        | Mescalero Apache     |
| Navajo Nation    | Ohkay Owingeh        | Picuris Pueblo       |
| Sandia Pueblo    | San Felipe Pueblo    | San Ildefonso Pueblo |
| Santa Ana Pueblo | Santo Domingo Pueblo | Zia Pueblo           |

Residents of tribes, pueblos, and nations that are not exempted from the ABAWD requirements above won't be included until phase 3 (August 2015).



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## Is other assistance available for recipients?

Employment & Training reimbursements for monthly supportive services vary depending upon the component:

| <u>Component</u>      | <u>Dependent Care</u> | <u>Transportation</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Individual Job Search | \$40                  | \$25 (up to 2 months) |
| Job Training          | \$200                 | \$25                  |
| Community Service     | \$200                 | \$25                  |

ABAWD reimbursement for monthly supportive services:

| <u>Component</u>  | <u>Transportation</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Job Training      | \$50                  |
| Community Service | \$50                  |



# Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

## How will this rule be implemented?

### Phase 1 (November 1, 2014):

- ▶ Bernalillo County    Los Alamos County    Rio Arriba County    Sandoval County
- ▶ Santa Fe County    Valencia County

### Phase 2 (March 1, 2015):

- ▶ Dona Ana County    Lincoln County    Otero County    San Juan County
- ▶ Socorro County

### Phase 3 (August 1, 2015):

- ▶ Chavez County    Colfax County    Curry County    De Baca County
- ▶ Eddy County    Lea County    Quay County    Roosevelt County
- ▶ San Miguel County    Torrance County    Union County

NOTE: Residents of tribes, pueblos, and nations that were not exempted from the ABAWD requirements won't be included until phase 3 (August 2015).





# Key Points

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- ▶ This rule removes a temporary waiver
  - It will be phased in and includes numerous exemptions for high unemployment areas
- ▶ These changes provide additional assistance to individuals to help them build skills and find work.
- ▶ Only those who are physically able to meet the requirements must participate.
- ▶ These requirements work in conjunction with other assistance programs.



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# Questions?