Department of Social and Health Services

Community Services Division

EA-Z Manual

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Category: Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents

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Summary

Updates to the Regaining Eligibility (Requalifying) section of the ABAWD chapter only. Clarification – adding an examples and suggested questions.

Regaining Eligibility

UPDATE: 4/3/2020 Due to the Family's First Act, ABAWD clients do not need to meet requalification rules in order to qualify for Basic Food. They can be eligible as long as the household meets the other Basic Food eligibility factors.

There are no limits to the number of times a client can regain eligibility.

An ABAWD may regain eligibility by working and/or participating in approved training a total of 80 hours within a 30 consecutive day period:

The 30 day period may:

- Be any consecutive 30 day period in which the client completed 80 hours of work or work like activities; and
- End as late as 30 days after the date of application.

However, all 80 hours must be within 30 consecutive days.

- 1. If an applicant applies having met the 80 hours within the 30 consecutive days prior to date of application, and meets all other eligibility factors, the client is eligible effective the date of application.
- 2. If an applicant applies before meeting the full 80 hours, they are ineligible.
 - a. Deny the application.
 - b. When the client verifies that the full 80 hours was met, within a 30 consecutive day period ending no later than 30 days after date of application rescreen the application using the requalifying date as the date of application.
 - c. If a client does not provide verification by the 30th day after the application, they will need to provide a new application.

Example:

Jerry failed to meet ABAWD requirements for January, February and March 2019 and his food benefits terminated 03/31/2019. Jerry started working 10/01/2019 and stopped working 12/31/2019. He reapplied for food benefits on 04/01/2020. The worker verified that he worked 80 hours between 10/01/2019-10/30/2019. The worker determined that Jerry requalified for food benefits as of 04/01/2020. However, since Jerry is not working or meeting ABAWD requirements ongoing, he will begin to use his subsequent months starting 05/01/2020.

NOTE:

Ask open-ended questions to help determine if a previously terminated ABAWD has requalified, (met the 80 hours within a 30-day period) such as:

• Have you worked or been in training since [the last date of termination]?

If yes:

- Do you think it was at least 80 hours within a 30-day period?
- Approximately what dates?
- Where did you complete this work or training? Do you have their contact information?

Use these answers to try and help the client verify they have met requalification requirements.