**What is an ABAWD (Able-Bodied Adult without Dependents)?**

* Individuals that are age 19-49 that are not caring for a dependent child or that lack an exemption from the work requirement.
* ABAWDs receive three Time Limited Benefit (TLB) months of FS in a 36-month (3 year) period unless exempt.
* TLB months will start following the month of application, change or review.
* TLB’s do not have to be exhausted consecutively.

**Exemptions Include**

**(As a best practice, workers should document exemptions in case comments.)**

* Determined unfit for employment, which includes:
	+ Receiving temporary or permanent disability from a government or private source;
	+ Mentally or physically unable to work, as determined by the IM agency.
	+ Displays metal instability or combativeness;
* Verified as unable to work by a statement from a health care provider or social worker;
* Experiencing chronic homelessness. A person who is chronically homeless lacks a fixed, regular nighttime residence and does not expect to have a regular residence in the next 30 days.
* Receiving or has applied for Unemployment Compensation(UC) and is complying with UC work requirements;
* Regularly participating in a verified AODA treatment or rehabilitation program;
* A student of higher education (College or Tech School) that is otherwise FS eligible;
* A high school student that is 18 years of age and attending at least half-time;
* Primary caregiver for a dependent child under the age of 6 of an incapacitated adult (can be in the home or out of the home);
* Meeting the ABAWD work requirement outside of FSET through work or another allowable work program for an average of 20 hours per week or 80 hours per month or earning a minimum of $935.25 per month.

**FS Policy 3.17.1 and 3.16.1**