You have been identified as an Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD). Effective July 1, 2015, your SNAP benefits will be limited to 3 months in a 36 month period unless you meet certain exemptions or work requirements as detailed below.

These work requirements were established by federal law in 1996 with the passage of The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act and were in place here in Indiana until 2009. That year, due to the nationwide recession and high unemployment rate, the federal government allowed states to suspend time limits for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents between the ages of 18 and 49. Indiana accepted this waiver and did not maintain work requirements while the economy recovered.

Beginning in July 2015, Indiana will re-establish time limited benefits for non-exempt ABAWDS. This means you will be limited to receiving three months of SNAP benefits (not necessarily in a row) within a fixed 36-month period unless you are complying with one of the following:

1. Working an average of 20 hours per week for a total of 80 hours per month;
2. Participating in an approved SNAP employment and training activity such as through the Indiana Manpower Placement and Comprehensive Training (IMPACT) program for a minimum of 20 hours per week;
3. Participating in a combination of work and an approved SNAP employment and training activity for a minimum of 20 hours per week, or
4. Participating in a Community Work Experience Program (CWEP) activity for the required hours.

Failure to comply with at least one of these requirements will make you ineligible for SNAP for the remainder of a 36-month period after your 3 months of time-limited eligibility expires.

An ABAWD could regain eligibility to participate in SNAP if the following occurs:

1. Working at least 80 hours in a 30 day period;
2. Participating in approved employment and training activities for 80 hours in a 30 day period;
3. Any combination of work and participation in an approved SNAP employment and training activity for a total of 80 hours;
4. Become exempt; or
5. The 36-month period expires and a new 36-month period begins.
If you are not meeting work requirements, you will receive a letter from our office in June or July 2015. This letter will notify you of an appointment for an IMPACT orientation session. **It is very important for you to keep this appointment so that we may assist you in maintaining your eligibility for SNAP benefits!**

IMPACT staff will work with you to identify barriers that you feel may be preventing you from obtaining employment and can help you overcome them. IMPACT’s mission is to help people become work-ready so they can find and keep a job. The employment and training services offered through IMPACT also include job readiness and search activities, Community Work Experience Program, preparation for a High School Equivalency diploma and short term job skills training programs. And, if needed, IMPACT can provide clothing and transportation assistance to help with employment and training activities.

If you have any questions, please contact FSSA staff at 1-800-403-0864 and choose option 2, then option 6.