



Department of Human Resources
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

Family Investment Administration
ACTION TRANSMITTAL

Control Number: # 09-29

Effective Date: April 1, 2009

Issuance Date: March 16, 2009

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

FROM: KEVIN M. MCGUIRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: TREATMENT OF ABLE-BODIED ADULTS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS

PROGRAM AFFECTED: FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM (FSP)

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS

SUMMARY

On February 17, 2009, the President signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. One provision of the law eliminates the special work requirement for able bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD). They are now eligible for an indefinite period of time. This provision begins April 1, 2009 and lasts until October 1, 2010.

ACTION REQUIRED

Pay special attention to applications that include ABAWDs that are filed within 60 days prior to April 1. Deny for any months prior to April 1, and approve for subsequent months.

Between April 1, 2009 until October 1, 2010, ABAWDs are subject to the same work requirements and employment and training requirements as other FSP applicants and recipients.

The work requirements are described in section 130 of the Food Supplement Program Manual. Section 130.24 of the FSP Manual – Able Bodied Adults without Dependents - does not apply during this period.

Beginning October 1, 2010, the ABAWD time limits will begin again. You will receive additional information about ABAWD changes closer to that time.

QUALITY CONTROL

Quality Control will not begin to count errors resulting from incorrectly disqualifying ABAWDs because they received 3 months of benefits in a 36 month period until September 30, 2009.

INQUIRIES:

Please direct FSP policy questions to Rick McClendon at 410-767-7307.

cc: FIA Management Staff
Constituent Services
DHR Help Desk