

THIS LETTER APPLIES TO THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES ONLY:

Buncombe	Cabarrus	Carteret	Chatham
Craven	Dare	Davie	Durham
Forsyth	Guilford	Harnett	Henderson
Johnston	Lee	Mecklenburg	Moore
New Hanover	Onslow	Orange	Randolph
Sampson	Union	Wake	Watauga
Yadkin			

DSS ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO. ECONOMIC SERVICES 7-2007, Removal of 15% Exemption for ABAWDs in Specified Counties (September 21, 2007)

(Food and Nutrition Services)

TO: County Directors of Social Services

ATTENTION: Food and Nutrition Services Supervisors

DATE: September 21, 2007

SUBJECT: Removal of 15% Exemption for ABAWDs in Specified Counties

EFFECTIVE: **October 1, 2007**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

On December 1, 2006, Administrative Letter #5-2006 was issued with policy and procedures regarding the 2007 Regional ABAWD Two Year Waiver. At that time, NC was granted a waiver for seventy two counties that met the high unemployment criteria. Twenty-five counties were not eligible for the waiver under the guidelines and were allowed to continue exempting ABAWDs utilizing the 15% exemption waiver from the time limits.

The increase in participation by ABAWDs under the 15% exemption has exhausted NC's allocation and USDA is requiring that NC discontinue use of the 15% exemptions effective October 1, 2007 in the twenty-five affected counties.

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

An ABAWD is restricted to receiving FNS benefits for a period of three months within the set 36-month period, unless the individual is exempt from ABAWD provisions or compliant with ABAWD requirements. Your county has been exempting ABAWDs under the 15% exemption for the past year. These ABAWDs may be eligible to receive three non-compliant (free) months during the current 36 month period which is January 2006 through December 2008. Please review Section 245 of the Food and Nutrition Services Manual for ABAWD policy.

III. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

This change is effective with each application, change in situation, or recertification taken or processed on or after October 1, 2007. All months prior to October 2007 must remain coded as exempt or waived.

Effective October 1, 2007, no longer enter code 16 for ABAWDs. Enter the appropriate ABAWD numerical code in Field 80E each application, change in situation, or recertification.

If you have any questions, please contact your Food and Nutrition Services & Energy Programs Representative.

Sincerely,

/S/

Adonica Hampton, Assistant Chief
Economic Services Section

AH/dp
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