SNAP AND MEDICAID WORK REQUIREMENTS IN DC

Due to changes in federal law, some people receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and/or Medicaid benefits may need to meet new work requirements.

WHO MUST MEET WORK REQUIREMENTS?

As of June 1, 2026 some SNAP recipients between the ages of 18-64 may need to meet new work requirements for Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD). Starting January 1, 2027, some Medicaid beneficiaries between the ages of 19-64 will need to meet work requirements.

HOW TO MEET WORK REQUIREMENTS

You can meet work requirements through any of the following:

Income:

- Medicaid: Meeting Medicaid work requirements means earning at least $580 in total income per month. For seasonal workers, you can qualify for Medicaid if your monthly income averaged at least $580 over the past 6 months.

- SNAP: Meeting SNAP ABAWD Work Requirements means customers make $217.50 per week ($870 per month). This can be earned from a job or unearned income like unemployment.

Employment: You work at least 80 hours a month in a full-time, part-time, self-employed, or unpaid work.

Community Service or Volunteering: To meet Medicaid work requirements, you can do unpaid work for at least 80 hours for a non-profit, religious group, or government agency. To meet SNAP ABAWD Work Requirements, you can volunteer at the District's SNAP Volunteer Program for a smaller number of hours.



Job Training: To meet both SNAP ABAWD and Medicaid work requirements, you can participate for at least 80 hours a month in a program that helps you find a job or learn new work skills.

Education: To meet SNAP ABAWD & Medicaid work requirements, you can go to a school, college, or trade program at least half-time.

A Mix of Activities: To meet work requirements for SNAP and Medicaid, you can combine different activities to reach your 80-hour total.

Exemptions

Examples of reasons you may be exempt from new work requirements for SNAP or Medicaid include if you:

- Are pregnant or are a parent or caregiver for a child under the age of 14.
- Are receiving disability-related benefits
- Have a physical or mental health condition that makes it hard to work
- Identify as an American Indian, Alaska Native, Urban Indian, or California Indian

Visit workrequirements.dc.gov for more guidance on exemptions.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR HOURS

You can submit your work hours or other eligibility documentation or check on your case status through any of these 4 direct channels:

- **Online & Mobile (fastest):**
  Visit districtdirect.dc.gov or download the secure District Direct Mobile App on your smartphone
- **By Phone:**
  Call 202-727-5355 and speak with a representative TTY 711
- **In Person:**
  Visit a DHS Service Center. Staff can help you submit your documents
- **By Fax:**
  Fax your documents to 202-671-4400

GET QUALIFIED FOR WORK REQUIREMENTS

The DC Department of Employment Services has work training programs that could qualify you for work requirements. Learn more at does.dc.gov.

SNAP customers, including those also enrolled in Medicaid, are encouraged to participate in the SNAP Employment & Training program (SNAP E&T). To learn more about SNAP E&T and the SNAP Volunteer program, visit tinyurl.com/SNAPemployment.

DHCF Department of Health Care Finance
DC Department of Human Services
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