

## **Group 1: ABAWDs Subject to the Time Limit**

- Qualifying Work Hours and Activities
- Counting Months
- Proper Notifications
- Timely Terminations
- Churn and Regaining Eligibility



# What Counts: Work and Training

- Volunteer and unpaid work
- E&T options
- Combining work and E&T
- Workfare



# Capturing Work Activities

- Individuals can fulfill the ABAWD work requirement through:
  - Paid employment,
  - in-kind work,
  - unpaid or volunteer work.
- Verified under standards set by the State agency.
- States must count hours of voluntary work.
- **Know the difference!** Voluntary work and voluntary workfare: Unpaid or volunteer work performed at a public or private non-profit institution can be treated as workfare.



## Capturing Qualifying Activity – Good Cause

- Good cause for failing to work 80 hours a month: 7 C.F.R. 273.24(b)(2)
- In cases where an individual is fulfilling the ABAWD work requirement through SNAP E&T or workfare, good cause for failing to meet E&T or workfare requirement is good cause for failure to meet ABAWD requirement, under 273.7(i). FNS Guidance, Nov. 19, 2015



# What Counts: Employment and Training

- SNAP E&T, programs under WIOA
- Job search doesn't count. Except when:
  - Less than half of total SNAP E&T hours,
  - Through WIOA or Trade Act program, or
  - Initial month of a workfare program for new applicants
- Participating in education or training for less than 20 hours/week may make someone an exempt student
- The importance of voluntary
- Good cause



# Workfare

- ABAWD hours are determined by dividing benefit by locally applicable minimum wage – usually less than 24 hours a month
- Workfare can take many forms
  - SNAP E&T workfare
  - Comparable workfare
- Community partners can provide verification
- Work experience programs redesignated as workfare



# Community Service



Mail or fax this form to your local County Assistance Office.

## Community Service | Volunteer Verification Form

**INSTRUCTIONS: Please mail or FAX the completed form within 10 days of receipt to the office listed above.**

See reverse for detailed directions. Questions? Call the Statewide Customer Service Center 1-877-395-8930

### SECTION I. Volunteer | Agency Information

Name of Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Last 4 SSN \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address of Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Agency Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address of Agency \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION II. Community Service Activity Information

Start Date of Service	MM-DD-YYYY	Expected End Date of Service*	MM-DD-YYYY	Transportation Provided by Agency at No Cost?	YES	NO
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Monthly Schedule of Service								Estimated Weekly Hours
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S	
Week 1								
Week 2								
Week 3								
Week 4								
<b>Total Monthly Estimated Hours</b>								

#### Monthly Schedule Instructions

1. Mark an 'X' on the expected days of service.
2. Enter the total weekly hours in the Estimated Weekly Hours column.
3. Total the monthly estimated hours.

(Circle one)

Description of Tasks Performed:

### SECTION III. Agency Certification

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that our organization is a nonprofit with 501(C) (3) or 501(C) (4) status and the above named volunteer is registered with our agency to complete community service for the hours and period as indicated above. I understand that this community service verification form is used to verify up to six months of community service participation. I also understand that our agency must report any changes in participation to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services within 10 days from the date the change occurred.



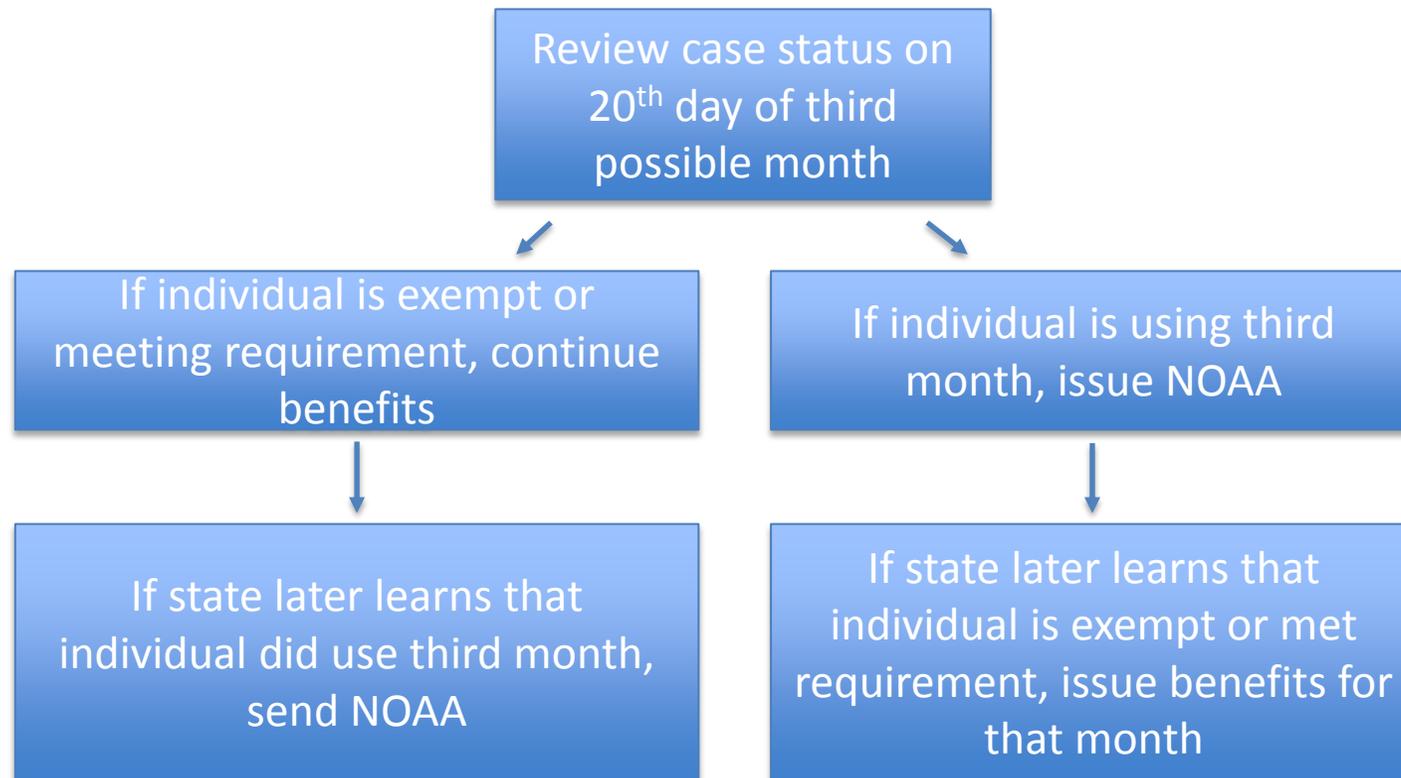
# Counting Months

- The rule requires tracking each month of an individual ABAWD's participation
- A countable month must be a full month of benefits – a month with prorated benefits is not a countable month.
- A month in which an individual ABAWD becomes exempt during the month is not a countable month.
- Under simplified reporting, ABAWDs only need to report income over IRT and when their work hours drop below an average of 20 per week.



# Timely Terminations

Reconciling notice requirements with the three month limit is a challenge for states.



# Churn and Regaining Eligibility

- Many individuals reapplied after termination this year.
- Regain eligibility by:
  - Work, participate in E&T or combine the two for 80 hours in any 30 day period
  - At state option, individual verifies he or she will meet the 80 hours within 30 days of reapplying
  - Becoming exempt
- Using banked months for those who demonstrate progress in meeting work requirements

