



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

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GENERAL LETTER NO. 7-I-37

ISSUED BY: Bureau of Financial, Health and Work Supports
Division of Adult, Children and Family Services

SUBJECT: Employees' Manual, Title 7, Chapter I, ***SPECIFIC HOUSEHOLDS AND PARTICIPANTS***, pages 7 and 37, revised.

Summary

Chapter 7-I is revised to:

- ◆ Update the chart "Amount Needed to Earn a Qualifying Quarter" to include information for 2014 and 2015.
- ◆ Add a link to explain ABAWD exemption policy as it pertains to regaining eligibility.
- ◆ Update all links due to the Department's new website.

Effective Date

October 1, 2014

Material Superseded

This material replaces the following pages from Employees' Manual, Title 7, Chapter I:

<u>Page</u>	<u>Date</u>
7	November 1, 2013
37	May 23, 2008

Additional Information

Refer questions about this general letter to your area income maintenance administrator.

- ◆ Canadian-born American Indians who have treaty rights to cross the United States borders with Canada and Mexico. There is an extensive list of these tribes. Contact SPIRS Help Desk if you question whether a tribe is included.
- ◆ Iraqi and Afghan special immigrants. NOTE: Before December 19, 2009, eligibility for these special immigrants was time-limited. Contact SPIRS Help Desk if you need assistance determining eligibility for earlier months.

Establishing Qualifying Quarters

Legal Reference: 42 United States Code, Chapter 7, Subchapter II, § 413

When an alien’s eligibility depends on meeting the 40-quarter requirement, you must determine the number of quarters the person can be credited with. Each person can get up to four qualifying quarters of credit each calendar year based on the person’s earnings.

The following chart gives the amount a person had to earn to get one credit for the years 1978 and later. (Contact SPIRS help desk for assistance in calculating qualifying quarters for years before 1978.)

Amount Needed to Earn a Qualifying Quarter			
Year	Earnings Needed to Get 1 Credit	Year	Earnings Needed to Get 1 Credit
1978	\$250	1997	\$670
1979	\$260	1998	\$700
1980	\$290	1999	\$740
1981	\$310	2000	\$780
1982	\$340	2001	\$830
1983	\$370	2002	\$870
1984	\$390	2003	\$890
1985	\$410	2004	\$900
1986	\$440	2005	\$920
1987	\$460	2006	\$970
1988	\$470	2007	\$1,000
1989	\$500	2008	\$1,050
1990	\$520	2009	\$1,090
1991	\$540	2010	\$1,120
1992	\$570	2011	\$1,120
1993	\$590	2012	\$1,130
1994	\$620	2013	\$1,160
1995	\$630	2014	\$1,200
1996	\$640	2015	\$1,220

See [Ineligible Household Members](#) for how to treat the income and resources of an ineligible ABAWD who is a member of an eligible Food Assistance household.

Countable Months in Another State

If an applicant ABAWD received Food Assistance benefits in another state, verify whether any of the months in which benefits were received were countable months in that state. Also verify whether the additional three months of benefits were used.

The other state's verbal statement is the only proof needed that the ABAWD did or did not use any countable months. Document the information in the case record.

Consider only Iowa's three-year period when determining if the benefits received in the other state count towards Iowa's three-month limit. See [Time Limit for ABAWDs](#) for Iowa's periods in which ABAWDs are limited to three months of benefits.

Regaining Eligibility

ABAWDs who have been canceled or denied Food Assistance eligibility because of having used their three-month time limit can regain eligibility for Food Assistance benefits. There is no limit on how many times an ABAWD can regain eligibility.

- ◆ ABAWDs can regain eligibility right away by becoming exempt from the ABAWD work requirement, as explained under [ABAWD Exemptions](#).
- ◆ ABAWDs can also regain eligibility by performing one of the activities listed under [ABAWD Work Requirement](#) within any 30-consecutive-day period, instead of a calendar month. The activity must be completed before the ABAWD can be approved for Food Assistance benefits.

ABAWDs who regain eligibility can get Food Assistance benefits as long as they continue to meet the work requirement or are exempt from the work requirements. ABAWDs who regain eligibility but are not meeting the work requirement when they apply for Food Assistance benefits may qualify for an additional three months of eligibility, as described under [Additional Three-Months' Eligibility](#).