SNAP Work Requirements Start January 1, 2020 – Cook County

*DuPage County work requirements began in 2018; other Illinois counties may be impacted later in 2020.*

If you are an Able Bodied Adult without Dependents (ABAWDs), you will be limited to the length of time you can receive SNAP benefits.

Are you required to meet the SNAP Work Requirements?

- Do you live in DuPage or Cook County? **YES** **NO**
- Are you between the ages of 18 – 49? **YES** **NO**
- Are you part of a SNAP case without children? **YES** **NO**

If you answered yes to ALL of these questions, you may be required to meet the SNAP work requirements.

To receive SNAP for more than three (3) months you have to:
- Work 80 hours per month (paid, unpaid or in-kind work)
- Participate in a training program
- Do community service or workfare for 20 hours per week

If you do not meet these requirements, your SNAP benefits may end as early as April 1, 2020.

Some exemptions available
What should you do?
Read and respond to all notices from the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS).

What should you do if you receive or apply for SNAP?
Send copies of your proofs and keep a record of when you gave DHS your information.
This information must be reported EVERY month.

Who is EXEMPT from the rule?
- Under 18 or 50 years old or older
- Working at least 20 hours/week
- Living with a child under 18 who is on your SNAP case
- Pregnant
- Unable to work due to a medical reason (physical or mental)
- Caring for an incapacitated person
- Receiving or applying for unemployment
- Regular participant in drug or alcohol treatment
- Eligible student

What meets the work requirement?
- Work average of 80 hours a month (paid, unpaid or in-kind)
- GED programs
- ESL classes
- Job training programs
- Internships
- Attending & studying 20 hours a week for college classes through the Perkins program
- Community service
- Workfare
- Volunteering at least 20 hours per week at a community based organization or church