

Nathan Deal, Governor

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December 23, 2013

## FOOD STAMP PROGRAM MANUAL TRANSMITTAL NO. 37

- TO: Regional Directors, Regional Managers, County Department of Family and Children Services, and State Office Staff
- **FROM:** Sharon L. Hill, Ph.D., Division Director Division of Family and Children Services

**RE:** Food Stamp Program Manual Transmittal 37

The purpose of this transmittal is to provide updates to the Food Stamp Program's Employment and Training (E&T) policy. With the submission of the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2014 Employment and Training State Plan, several changes have been made to the E&T program operations. Georgia has accepted the ABAWD Waiver for FFY 2014 but has elected to operate a mandatory work program in the following 13 counties: Bibb, Chatham, Clayton, Clarke, Cobb, DeKalb, Dougherty, Floyd, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall, Muscogee and Richmond. The Georgia E&T Program will be renamed the SNAP Works Program.

This transmittal also provides updates to the required SNAP Works participation activities, SNAP Works support services, and the Food Stamp Program's compliance methods for failure to participate in SNAP Works activities.

## Policy revisions include:

- A change to rename the Food Stamp Employment and Training Program the SNAP Works Program;
- Addition of the mandatory counties for participation in the SNAP Works Program;
- Changes on who is required to participate in the SNAP Works Program (i.e. ABAWDS and Mandatory Registrants living in the household with children under age 18 who are not caretakers);
- Requirements for determining the work status of applicants/recipients at initial application and every recertification interview;
- A change to some of the work registration exemptions as well as the verification requirements for those exemptions;
- Updates to the SNAP Works participation activities to include job search, job skills training, education/vocational training, and work experience;
- Updates to the compliance policy for failure to participate in SNAP Works activities;
- A change to provide only transportation and incidental support services to SNAP Works participants.

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This transmittal is effective January 1, 2014.

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