
Due to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and statewide ABAWD waiver approval from the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), there are no mandatory FSET requirements from January 1, 2009 through September 30, 2012. For more information on the statewide ABAWD waiver, see [§6.6](#) (Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDS)).

The ARRA and the statewide ABAWD waiver supersede the policy in this section.

Food Support (FS) provides Employment Services (ES) to program participants. FS participants are served by the Food Support Employment and Training (FSET) program. FSET provides services to Non-Public Assistance FS participants whose participation is mandatory (Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) between the ages of 18 and 50). For those who are not exempt or do not meet an exception criteria, participation in Employment Services is mandatory. See [§6.9](#) (Who Must Participate in FSET), [§6.9.3](#) (Who Is Exempt From FSET).

Some FS participants are required to register for work. The client registers all assistance unit members who are required to be work registered by signing the [Combined Application Form \(DHS-5223\)](#) or the [Combined Application - Addendum \(DHS-5223C\)](#). Some FS participants are NOT required to be referred for work, see [§6.3.3](#) (Who Is Exempt From FS Work Registration).

Sanction or disqualify people if they do not cooperate with Employment Services requirements. See [§6.12](#) (Failure to Comply with FSET Requirements).

An orientation must be provided to all FSET participant's, see [§5.6](#) (FSET Orientation).

Each county must provide an Employment Services component or contract with Employment Services Providers (ESPs) for such services. The county agency may choose to use the same or different providers for each Employment Services activity. FSET services must be provided through a Workforce Development Center unless such services are not available through a local Workforce Development Center.

The ESP and the county agency must develop procedures to ensure that clients comply with Employment Services requirements. The county agency must refer, exempt, and sanction clients when they do not comply with the requirements, and oversee the ESPs.

Employment Services programs may pay for some client Employment Services related expenses. See [§5.23](#) (Support Services Allowed).

The following services may be provided and funded with the county's FSET allocation:

- **FSET Orientation and mandatory responsibilities:** Includes notices, contacts, and other activities needed to schedule newly referred FSET participants. Provide to all FSET participants.
- **Counseling services:** Includes individual assessment, testing, development of the Employment Plan (EP), vocational counseling, encouragement and support, placement assistance, referrals, and coordination of services.
- **Training and education services:** FSET participants may participate in short-term technical or post-secondary education (up to 2 years). The ES Provider must approve the program as part of the participant's Employment Plan.

Training/education services may include:

- English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for participants who do not speak English well enough to obtain employment.
- Adult basic education (ABE) for participants who need remedial education in order to obtain employment.
- High school education or equivalent programs for participants who have not completed high school.
- Post-secondary education or training of 2 years or less in duration.
- On-the-job training (OJT).
- Job search, job search training, and job club
- Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs.
- Work experience placements (Workfare). Work experience is unpaid work in a public or private non-profit agency. See [§7.3](#) (Work Experience/Workfare).

When circumstances require intervention in areas outside the expertise of the ES Provider or require other resources, make referrals to the appropriate county or community agency. Issues, which often require a referral, include:

- Chemical dependency.
- Mental or emotional health problems.
- Family violence.
- Physical health problems.
- Legal problems.

