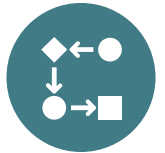


ABAWD Exemption Changes

Effective August 9, 2026 | CalFresh CA-300398

On August 9, 2026, CalSAWS will release an enhancement to update Work Registration or ABAWD exemptions based on data provided by CDSS. This enhancement is part of ongoing efforts to prepare for and respond to H.R. 1 policy updates.

Changes to ABAWD Exemptions



- CalSAWS will use the monthly ABAWD Exemption File from CDSS to apply the appropriate Work Registration or ABAWD time limit exemptions for the individuals identified in the file
- The Work Registration and ABAWD Exemption Detail pages will have a new “Created By” field that will display “CDSS Exemption File” when the exemption was provided by CDSS
- The ABAWD batch will run after the monthly ABAWD exemption file is executed to make a new determination for the individual to be Work Registration or ABAWD exempt based on the exemption received from the CDSS Exemption File
- The first CDSS Exemption File will be run starting August 9, 2026 for the September 2026 benefit month
- An automated journal entry will be added when a Work Registration or ABAWD Exemption record is added through the “CDSS Exemption File”

Training Resources and Policy Guidance



- JA ABAWD was updated to reflect these changes and sent via CIT 0137-26 on August 6
- Additional information and guidance can be found in [ACL 26-43](#)

