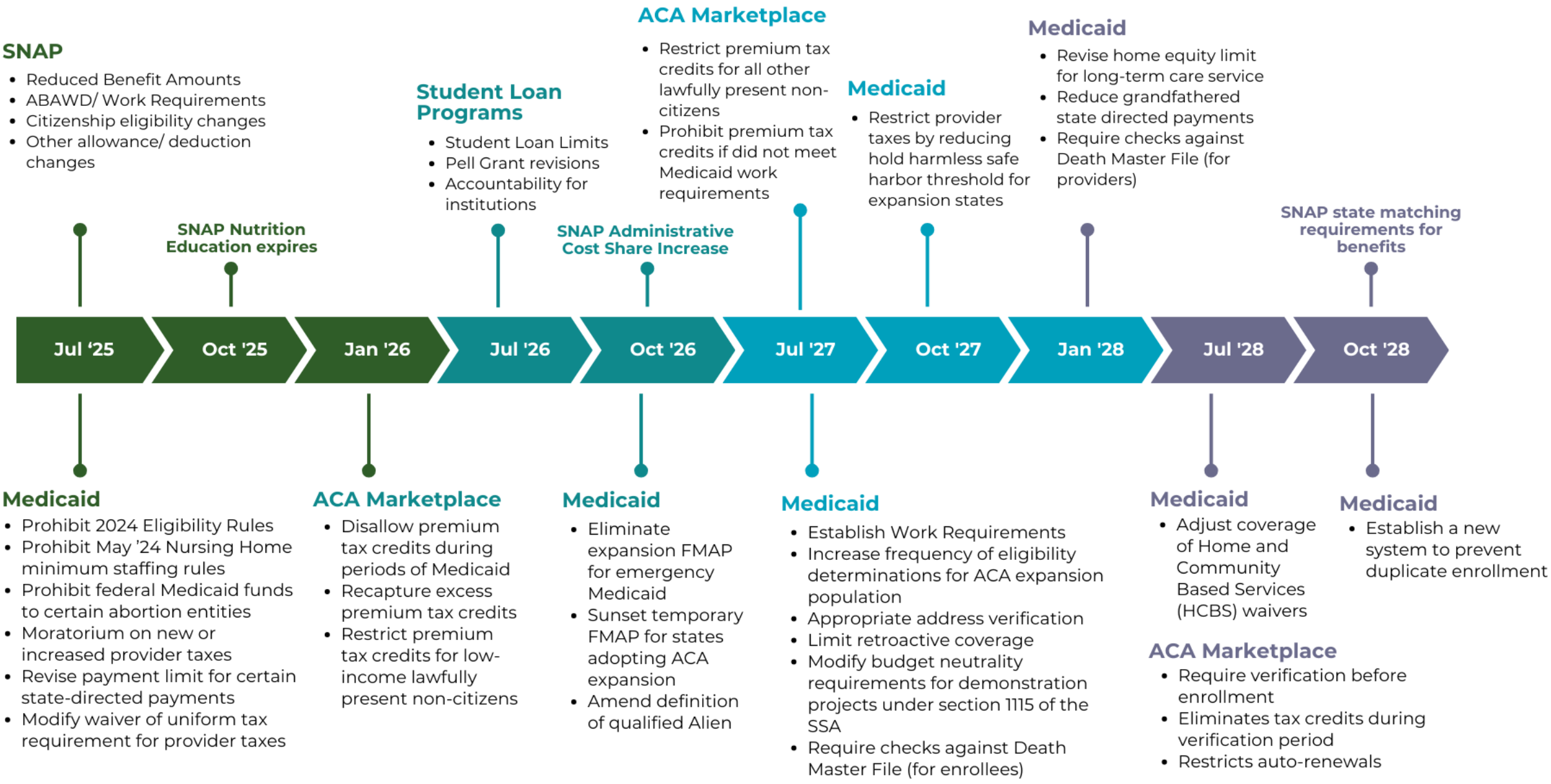
DSHS
WASHINGTON STATE
Department of Social and Health Services

Washington State's Food Assistance Programs — H.R. 1 Impact and Implementation

Babs Roberts, Senior Advisor
Economic Services Administration

HR. 1 Timeline



H.R. 1 Provisions and Implementation

Provision	Effective
Increases work requirements and reduces work exemptions	July 4, 2025
Limits SNAP eligibility to legal citizens and lawful permanent residents	July 4, 2025
Restricts ability to confer a standard utility allowance based on Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program participation.	July 4, 2025
Limits SNAP benefit allotments	July 4, 2025
Defunds the SNAP Education Program	Oct. 1, 2025
Increases state costs for program administration	Oct. 1, 2026
Requires states to contribute 0%-15% annually to the SNAP program	Oct. 1, 2027

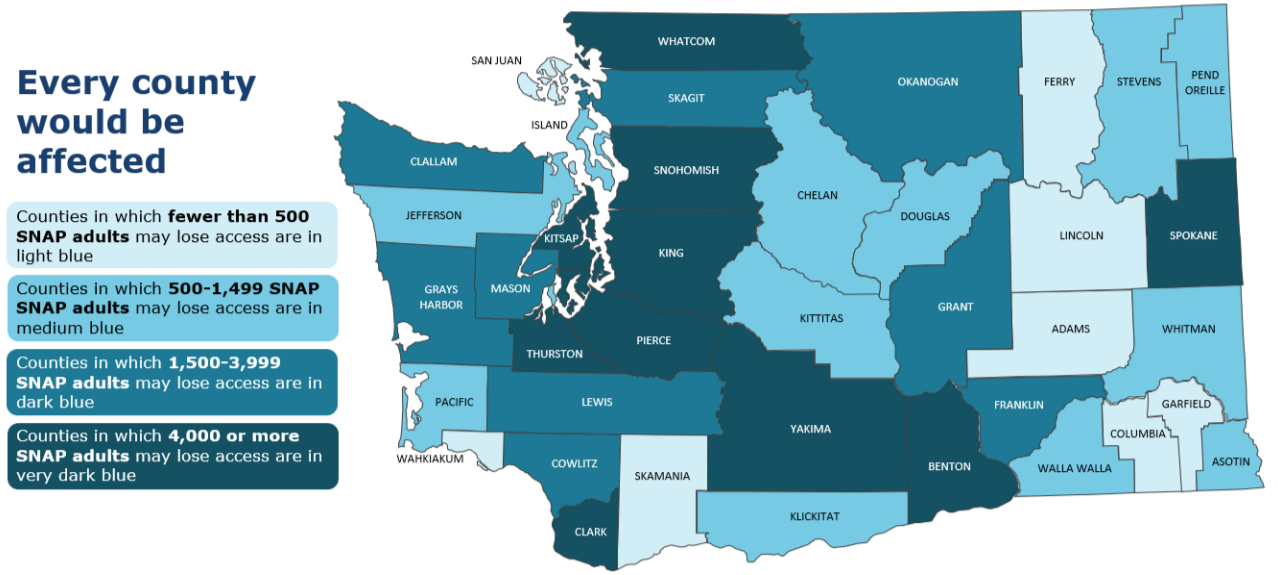
Work Requirements

Section 10102 – Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) – Effective 7/4/2025

This section expands work requirements to more individuals, removes some current exemptions, adds one new exemption, and makes it more difficult for states to waive geographic areas.

•On October 3rd, USDA notified the state that current and approved geographic waivers were rescinded effective November 2nd. **NOTE: this decision was reversed in late December 2025 – Waiver remains in effect until Jan 31, 2026.**

Change	Additional ABAWDS
Removes waived area for high unemployment (unless over 10%)*	44,300
Expands ABAWD to age 64	27,200
Requires work participation for parents with children aged 14+	22,000
Removes some exemptions (homeless, veteran, former foster child)	44,000
Adds exemption for American Indian and Alaska Native	-11,500
Total impact	**~126,000**



Source: EMAPS #6435B using the ACES Data Warehouse as of June 2025. Data represents March 2025.

Increases Work Requirements

Criteria Before H.R. 1	Criteria Now
Considered able to work	
Not pregnant	
Ages 18 through 54	Ages 18 through 64
No dependent child younger than 18 in household	No dependent child younger than 14 in household
Exceptions for people experiencing homelessness, veterans, and those 24 and younger who aged out of foster care	Exceptions eliminated
Allows waiver requests in areas with insufficient job opportunities	Allows waiver requests only for areas with an unemployment rate of 10%+
N/A	Exemption for American Indian/Alaska Native

How Can ABAWDS Meet Work Requirements

- Work an average of 80 hours per month
- Work in exchange for money or for goods or services
- Participate in approved work program / meet its requirements
- Participate in unpaid work program

Countable Activities:

- Employment or Work
- SNAP Employment Training (BFET)
- Job Search / Job Training
- Other State Approved E&T Programs
- Unpaid work or Workfare Program participation

Please refer clients back to DSHS with questions about their activities. Clients can call us at 1-877-501-2233 or visit their local Community Service Office.

H.R. 1 and the Governor's Proposed Budget

	Gov Budget	Description
1. H.R. 1 SNAP administrative match	$45.7 million state ($0 total)	Would increase GF-S and reduce federal to cover the change in the federal and state administrative split from 50% state to 75% state, effective Oct. 1, 2026.
2. SNAP quality control staffing	$688K state ($1.06 million total)	Would provide six FTEs within the Division of Program Integrity starting in April 2026 to address the increased quality-assurance work required by H.R. 1.
3. SNAP benefit match	$693,000 state ($1.25 million total) FY28: $72 million FY29: $96 million	Beginning October 2027, states must contribute 0% to 15% of the cost of benefits based on their payment error rate. This proposal would fund it based on 5% of FY25 SNAP benefit levels. The 2025-27 impact would be for IT system enhancement costs.
4. SNAP and FAP work requirement changes	$13.9 million state ($26.77 million total)	This would fund staffing for manual work requirements workaround and the BFET contractor increase ($4 million in 2025-27) to support implementation of H.R. 1 changes to ABAWD work requirements.

H.R. 1 and the Governor's Proposed Budget (Continued)

	Gov Budget	Description
5. H.R. 1 impact to FAP forecast	$38.7 million	The H.R. 1 impact to the FAP caseload is included within the Mandatory Caseload Adjustments to align with the November forecast.
6. ACES contractor services (IT surge)	$11.3 million state ($20.0 million total)	This would fund ACEs contractor support for a 12-month period to increase capacity to implement critical system enhancements, including but not limited to changes made to the SNAP program due to H.R. 1.
7. Work requirement IT Project (hub)	$3.3 million state ($9.0 million total)	This would fund a Verification Hub to perform work requirement verifications and exemptions to support eligibility determinations and post eligibility reviews.