

**DSS ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO. ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE 7-2003
(Food Stamps)**

TO: County Directors of Social Services
DATE: March 18, 2003
ATTENTION: Food Stamp Supervisors
SUBJECT: New Dependent Relationship Code Z
**EFFECTIVE
DATE:** March 24, 2003

Effective Monday, March 24, 2003, two changes will be implemented in FSIS to support the forthcoming semi-annual reporting policy. A new Dependent Relationship Code "Z" will be available for use in Field 80K in FSIS. This new code "Z" will be used to identify those individuals who are Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) and who are receiving Food Stamp benefits. This new code "Z" will have the same status in the case as the current "I" (Included) code in Field 80K.

A one-time report, ACTIVE FSIS CASES WITH ONLY ABAWDS, will be available in XPTR on March 24, 2003. This report lists those individuals who are 18 – 49 years old that have no individuals on the case under the age of 18. All individuals on this report must be assessed to determine ABAWD status. For those individuals determined to be participating ABAWDs, Field 80K must be updated with the new "Z" code no later than April 30, 2003.

NOTE: Ineligible ABAWDs will continue to be coded "J" in Field 80K.

A new Review for Change code "Z" is also available effective March 24, 2003. This code may be used in Field 74 and/or 76 and will serve as a reminder on the REDETERMINATION DUE/REV CH Report that this case is an ABAWD case that is due a review for change.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact your Program Integrity Representative.

Sincerely,

Wilbert R. Morris, Chief
Economic Independence Section

WM/HK/bh