

**Legislative Regulation
Review Committee**

2009-039

Department of Social Services

FOOD STAMP VOLUNTARY QUIT POLICY

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
UNIFORM POLICY MANUAL**

Date:	Transmittal: UP-	3040
Section: Technical Eligibility Requirements	Type:	POLICY
Chapter: Voluntary Quit	Program:	[FS] <u>SNAP</u>
Subject:		

3040 Under certain conditions an applicant for or recipient of [Food Stamps] SNAP who voluntarily quits employment is ineligible for a period of time.

This chapter describes:

- the individuals to whom this eligibility requirement applies;
- the circumstances which do and do not constitute a voluntary quit;
- the time limits within which a voluntary quit affects eligibility.

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
UNIFORM POLICY MANUAL**

Date:	Transmittal: UP-	3040.05
Section:	Technical Eligibility Requirements	Type: POLICY
Chapter:	Voluntary Quit	Program: [FS] SNAP
Subject:	Basic Provisions	

3040.05 A. Applicants and Recipients

1. The following actions constitute voluntary quit, unless good cause exists as defined in this chapter:
 - a. an individual voluntarily quits employment; or
 - b. an individual voluntarily reduces work hours to less than 30 a week; or
 - c. an individual fails to comply with workfare requirements.
2. When the head of the assistance unit is a mandatory work registrant and is found to have voluntarily quit as noted in A.1. above, the entire assistance unit is ineligible up to a maximum of 180 days. [The head of the assistance unit continues to be ineligible beyond the 180 days if this is the third violation.]
3. If a member other than the head of the assistance unit is a mandatory work registrant and is found to have voluntarily quit, that individual is ineligible.
4. Employment in this context refers to the most recent job held.
5. A strike against Federal, State or local governments which results in dismissal for participating in such a strike is considered a voluntary quit without good cause.
6. Voluntary quit provisions do not apply to:
 - a. termination of self-employment;
 - b. resigning at the employer's demand.

B. Applicants

1. A voluntary quit which occurred more than 60 days prior to application does not cause ineligibility.
2. The application process is not delayed pending determination that a voluntary quit has occurred.

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF INCOME MAINTENANCE
UNIFORM POLICY MANUAL**

Date:	Transmittal: UP-	3040.15
Section:		Type:
Technical Eligibility Requirements		POLICY
Chapter:		Program:
Voluntary Quit		[FS] SNAP
Subject:		
Good Cause		

3040.15 Good cause for voluntarily quitting a job is established by one or more of the following:

A. Work Requirements - Good Cause (cross-reference: [4510] 3510)

A reason accepted as good cause for non-compliance with other work requirements is considered good cause for a voluntary quit. These include:

1. unsuitability; or
2. circumstances beyond the individual's control; or
3. conditions of employment.

B. Education or Training

Enrollment at least half time in any recognized school, training program or institution of higher education is considered good cause for the principal wage earner to leave employment. This applies when the individual enrolling is either:

1. the employed individual; or
2. another member of the assistance unit, that causes the assistance unit to move.

C. Employment

Gaining other employment is considered good cause when it is:

1. the new employment which has comparable wages or hours to the job quit; or
2. another assistance unit member's new employment, that causes the assistance unit to move and the employed individual to voluntarily quit employment.

3040.15 D. Special Circumstances of Quit

Certain special circumstances of a voluntary quit are accepted as good cause as follows:

1. when the individual who has quit is under age 60, and the employer recognizes the quit as retirement; or
2. when the job, which was 20 hours or more or the equivalent in earnings, turns out to be less, due to circumstances beyond the individual's control; or
3. when the quit is part of an employment pattern in which workers frequently move from one employer to another, such as migrant farm labor or construction.

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
UNIFORM POLICY MANUAL**

Date:	Transmittal: UP-	3040.20
Section:	Technical Eligibility Requirements	Type: POLICY
Chapter:	Voluntary Quit	Program: [FS] SNAP
Subject:	Penalty	

3040.20 A. Penalty Period

The penalty for voluntary quit is as follows:

1. For applicants, the penalty period begins the date of the [quit] SNAP application or the first day of the first month of eligibility and continues as follows:
 - a. For the first offense, the later of:
 - (1) the date the individual cures the voluntary quit; or
 - (2) 90 days after the date the individual became ineligible.
 - b. For the second [offense] and subsequent offenses, the later of:
 - (1) the date the individual becomes eligible again; or
 - (2) 180 days after the individual became ineligible.
 - [c. For the third offense, the penalty is permanent.]
2. For recipients, the penalty period begins with the first month after the expiration of the appropriate procedures for taking adverse actions and continues as follows:
 - a. For the first offense, the later of:
 - (1) the date the individual cures the voluntary quit; or
 - (2) 90 days after the date the individual became ineligible.
 - b. For the second [offense] and subsequent offenses, the later of:
 - (1) the date the individual becomes eligible again; or
 - (2) 180 days after the individual became ineligible.
 - [c. For the third offense, the penalty is permanent.]

3040.20 A. Penalty Period (cont.)

3. The number of offenses is determined taking into consideration all previous voluntary quits as well as occurrences of non-compliance with other [Food Stamp] SNAP employment and training requirements. ([cross-reference] Cross Reference: 3510)

B. Changes in the Assistance Unit

1. The penalty for voluntary quit follows the individual.
2. When the ineligible individual who caused the penalty moves into another household as its head, the new unit is ineligible for the remainder of the penalty period up to a maximum of 180 days. The head of the assistance unit continues to be ineligible beyond the 180 days if this is the third violation.

C. Ending the Penalty Period

At any time after the penalty is imposed, the disqualification ends if the individual becomes exempt from work registration for a reason other than registration with an AFDC, TFA or Labor Department work program.

REGULATION

OF

IMPORTANT: Read instructions on bottom of Certification Page before completing this form. Failure to comply with instructions may cause disapproval of proposed Regulations.

NAME OF AGENCY

Department of Social Services

Concerning

SUBJECT MATTER OF REGULATION

Food Stamp Voluntary Quit Policy

SECTION _____

Statement of Purpose: (A) The purpose of the regulation is to amend sections 3040.05, 3040.15 and 3040.20 of the UPM. The problems, issues or circumstances that the regulation proposes to address: Previously, under the Food Stamp program, applicants or recipients of the Food Stamp program who voluntarily quit a job or reduced their hours of employment without good cause a third time were permanently ineligible for Food Stamps. The proposed amendments eliminates permanent disqualification for quitting voluntarily or reducing hours and, instead, imposes a penalty of six months for second and all subsequent incidents.

In addition, the proposed regulation also amends the affected UPM sections by changing all references the Food Stamp program to the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) to comply with the mandatory changes made to the Food Stamp program by the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008.

CERTIFICATION

R-39 REV. 1/77

Be it known that the foregoing:

Page 2 of 2 pages

Regulations Emergency Regulations

Are:

Adopted Amended as hereinabove stated Repealed

By the aforesaid agency pursuant to:

Sections 17b-10 of the General Statutes.

Section _____ of the General Statutes, as amended by Public Act No. _____ of the _____ Public Acts.

Public Act No. _____ of the Public Acts.

After publication in the Connecticut Law Journal on March 10, 2009, of the notice of the proposal to:

Adopt Amend Repeal such regulations

(If applicable): And the holding of an advertised public hearing on _____ day of _____

WHEREFORE, the foregoing regulations are hereby:

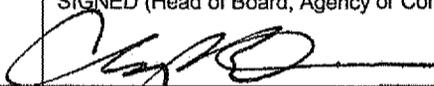
Adopted Amended as hereinabove stated Repealed

Effective:

When filed with the Secretary of the State.

(OR)

The _____ day of _____ .

In Witness Whereof:	Date <u>5/4/09</u>	SIGNED (Head of Board, Agency or Commission) 	OFFICIAL TITLE, DULY AUTHORIZED <u>Deputy Commissioner</u>
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Approved by the Attorney General as to legal sufficiency in accordance with sec. 4-169, as amended C.G.S.	SIGNED <u>W B A L</u> <u>5/14/09</u>	OFFICIAL TITLE, DULY AUTHORIZED <u>ASSOC. ATTY. GENERAL</u>
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- Approved
- Disapproved
- Disapproved in part, (Indicate Section Numbers disapproved only)
- Rejected without prejudice

By the Legislative Regulation Review Committee in accordance with Sec. 4-170, as amended, of the General Statutes.	Date	SIGNED (Clerk of the Legislative Regulation Review Committee)
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Two certified copies received and filed, and one such copy forwarded to the Commission in Official Legal Publications in accordance with Section 4-172, as amended, of the General Statutes.

DATE	SIGNED (Secretary of the State.)	BY
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INSTRUCTIONS

- One copy of all regulations for adoption, amendment or repeal, except emergency regulations, must be presented to the Attorney General for his determination of legal sufficiency. Section 4-169 of the General Statutes.
- Seventeen copies of all regulations for adoption, amendment or repeal, except emergency regulations, must be presented to the standing Legislative Regulation Review Committee for its approval. Section 4-170 of the General Statutes.
- Each regulation must be in the form intended for publication and must include the appropriate regulation section number and section heading. Section 4-172 of the General Statutes.
- Indicate by "(NEW)" in heading if new regulation. Amended regulations must contain new language in capital letters and deleted language in brackets. Section 4-170 of the General Statutes.