What is the State Review Team?
The State Review Team (SRT) is a process used to decide if a person can be exempt from the Employment First (EF) work requirement while receiving ADC or eligible for Medicaid. The SRT is made up of two doctors, one nurse, and one social worker.

What if I Can’t Work Because I’m Sick or Hurt?
If you feel you have an illness or injury that prevents you from working, you should notify your caseworker or the person handling your Medicaid application. This worker will ask you to submit a note or other documents from your doctor that say you are unable to work.

If your illness or injury is expected to last less than three months, your caseworker can grant a temporary exemption from the EF work requirement.

If your injury or illness is likely to last longer than three months or you are applying for Medicaid, your case must be sent to the SRT.

How Does My Case Get Sent to the SRT?
Your caseworker must file a form with the SRT. You and your caseworker should sit down and fill out the form together. This is important because it gives you a chance to tell your story to the SRT.

If you are applying for Medicaid, you can ask the person handling your application or contact Nebraska Medicaid Eligibility Administrator Lori Harder at 402-473-9877 to ask to begin the SRT process.

What Information Should I Give the SRT?
You should give provide information about how your injury or illness keeps you from being able to work.

Give as much information as you can about the specific symptoms you experience, how often you have symptoms, how strong the symptoms are, and what makes the symptoms better.

You should also share information from your health care providers, including the names and contact information for any doctors who have been involved in your diagnosis and/or treatment related to the illness or injury that prevents you from working. This may include your primary care physician, mental health providers, and other health care specialists.

What Happens after My Case Is Sent to the SRT?
Once you have completed the request, your caseworker should give the form to the SRT.

Your worker will also send a different form to your doctor/s. Your doctor/s will be asked to give the SRT information about your illness or injury and if your illness or injury keeps you from being able to work or work certain types of jobs. Both sets of information will be given to the SRT.

How does the SRT Make Decision?
The SRT will determine if you meet this test:

“Do you have a physical or mental illness or injury that has been diagnosed by a doctor, keeps you from being able to work, and that will last for at least three months?”

The SRT will look at the information you and your doctor(s) have shared to make a decision.

How Will I Know What the SRT Decides?
You must get a written notice of the SRT’s decision. If you are not given an exemption or you are not approved for Medicaid benefits, your notice will explain why.

What if I Disagree with Their Decision?
You have the right to appeal this decision if you disagree with it. To appeal the decision, you can ask your caseworker or local DHHS office for an appeal form (“Request for Fair Hearing” form).

The form will ask what decision you are appealing and the reasons for the appeal. If you need help filling out the appeal form, your worker must help you.

You can also appeal without a form by writing a simple letter explaining why you disagree.

For more information about the State Fair Hearing process, please see Nebraska Appleseed’s brochure: Basic Questions and Answers about Appeals and Mediation.

What if They Won’t Send My Case to the SRT?
If your caseworker tells you that he or she is not going to send your case to the SRT, you have the right to appeal that decision following the same procedure described in the previous section of this brochure.
Nebraska Appleseed is a nonprofit organization that fights for justice and opportunity for all Nebraskans. We take a systemic approach to complex issues – such as child welfare, immigration policy, affordable healthcare and poverty – and we take our work wherever we believe we can do the most good, whether that’s at the courthouse, in the statehouse or in the community.

Or, you can call 2-1-1 for referrals to other agencies that may be able to help.