

**STATE OF IDAHO**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE**  
**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM WAIVER REQUEST**  
December 18, 1998

**Waiver serial number:** 970161

**Type of request:** Extension

**Primary regulation citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PWORA) of 1996, P.L.104-103.

**Secondary regulation citation:** N/A.

**State:** Idaho.

**Region:** Western Regional Office Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

**Regulatory Requirements:**

Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PWORA), P. L. 104-193, provides that no able-bodied individual between the ages of 18 and 50, without dependent children shall be eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program as a member of any household if, during the preceding 36-month period, the individual received Food Stamp benefits for not less than 3-months (consecutive or otherwise), during which the individual did not work 20 hours or more per week, averaged monthly; did not participate in and comply with the requirements of a work program for 20 or more hours per week; or did not participate in and comply with requirements of a program under Section 20 or a comparable program established by the State.

**Proposed Alternative Procedures:**

The unemployment rate for residents of the Coeur d'Alene Reservation, (Benewah and Kootenai Counties) exceeds 10 percent. According to the Idaho Department of Labor statistics for the period, October 1997 to September 1998, the unemployment rate for this reservation was 16.7 percent. This area qualifies for a waiver of the work requirement.

**Justification for Request:**

This is an Agency option per Section 6(o)(4) of the Food Stamp Act.

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**Anticipated Impact on Households and State Agency Operations:**

This waiver would allow individuals residing on the Coeur d'Alene Reservation which has unemployment of more than 10 percent to be exempt from the work requirement and to continue receiving Food Stamps.

**Caseload Information:**

Idaho's Food Stamp caseload is approximately 22,000. This portion of the caseload that resides on the reservations is estimated at 2 percent.

**Anticipated Implementation Date and Period Waiver is Needed:**

Implementation Date: March 1, 1999

Idaho requests that the waiver be granted for not less than one year.

Patti Campbell  
Patti Campbell, Chief, Bureau of Policy  
Department of Health and Welfare

12-21-98  
Date

**STATE OF IDAHO  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE**

**FOOD STAMP PROGRAM WAIVER REQUEST  
December 18, 1998**

**Waiver serial number:** 970162

**Type of request:** Extension

**Primary regulation citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PWORA) of 1996, P.L.104-103.

**Secondary regulation citation:** N/A.

**State:** Idaho.

**Region:** Western Regional Office Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

**Regulatory Requirements:**

Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PWORA), P. L. 104-193, provides that no able-bodied individual between the ages of 18 and 50, without dependent children shall be eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program as a member of any household if, during the preceding 36-month period, the individual received Food Stamp benefits for not less than 3-months (consecutive or otherwise), during which the individual did not work 20 hours or more per week, averaged monthly; did not participate in and comply with the requirements of a work program for 20 or more hours per week; or did not participate in and comply with requirements of a program under Section 20 or a comparable program established by the State.

**Proposed Alternative Procedures:**

The unemployment rate for residents of the Nez Perce Reservation, (Idaho, Nez Perce, and Clearwater Counties) and the Fort Hall Reservation (Bannock, Bingham, and Power Counties), as certified by the Idaho Department of Labor statistics for the period of October 1997 to September 1998, exceed more than 10 percent. This area qualifies for a waiver of the work requirement. (Please see attached information from the Idaho Department of Labor). The Kootenai Reservation (Boundary County) has been certified by the Department of Labor as a Labor Surplus Area. (Please see attached listing of Idaho LSAs). The Duck Valley Reservation

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(Owyhee County) has an unemployment rate of 9.2 percent for the past 24-month period (July 1996 to June 1998). This significantly exceeds the national average of 4.9 percent unemployment for the same period. This area qualifies for a waiver of the work requirement as the data demonstrates a lack of sufficient jobs in these areas.

**Justification for Request:**

This is an Agency option per Section 6(o)(4) of the Food Stamp Act.

**Anticipated Impact on Households and State Agency Operations:**

This waiver would allow individuals residing on the Nez Perce, Fort Hall, Kootenai and Duck Valley Reservations to be exempt from the work requirement and to continue receiving Food Stamps.

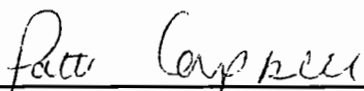
**Caseload Information:**

Idaho's Food Stamp caseload is approximately 22,000. This portion of the caseload that resides on the reservations is estimated at 4 percent.

**Anticipated Implementation Date and Period Waiver is Needed:**

Implementation Date: March 1, 1999

Idaho requests that the waiver be granted for not less than one year.

  
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Patti Campbell, Chief, Bureau of Policy  
Department of Health and Welfare

12-21-98  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date