

WAIVER EXTENSION REQUEST

1. **WAIVER SERIAL NUMBER:** 970135
2. **TYPE OF REQUEST:** Extension
3. **PRIMARY REGULATION CITATION:** Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Title VIII of Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.
4. **SECONDARY REGULATION CITATION:**
5. **STATE:** New Mexico
6. **REGION:** Southwest
7. **REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS:** Section 824 requires that certain individuals participating in the Food Stamp Program be working or participating in a work program for 20 hours a week, averaged over the month, in order to remain eligible to receive food stamp benefits.
8. **PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES:** The Human Services Department requests an extension of the waiver of the work requirement found in section 824, which allows New Mexico to waive the work requirement in areas with an unemployment rate over 10 percent as identified by the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
9. **JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:** The Human Services Department through the DOL-BLS has identified counties with unemployment rates over 10 percent.

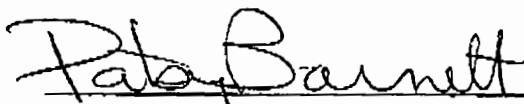
The waiver currently includes individuals residing in counties which have been identified by BLS as having unemployment rates over 10 percent. These counties are Catron, Cibola, Guadalupe, Luna, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, and Taos. This waiver extension request also includes the Picuris and Taos pueblos in Taos County. Chaves county is also over 10 percent, however it is included in waiver 970136 as a Labor Surplus Area.

The Cibola County unemployment rate dropped to 9.5%, Rio Arriba County to 9.3% and San Miguel County to 8.6%; therefore, they are not included in this request for a waiver extension in areas with an unemployment rate over 10 percent. However, they are included in waiver number 970136 extension request under Labor Surplus Areas. The following are counties with an unemployment rate over 10 percent, as identified for calendar year 1998:

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>UNEMPLOYMENT RATES</u>
Catron	11.5% 12.0
Guadalupe	10.4% 10.1
Luna	26.9% 25.9
Mora	20.1% 19.8
Taos	12.8% 12.3

198 } OK

10. **ANTICIPATED IMPACT ON HOUSEHOLDS AND STATE AGENCY:** An individual identified as an ABAWD and residing in these counties will not be required to comply with a work requirement in these areas of high unemployment. The State Agency case maintenance activity will continue to be simplified with a waiver extension of the work requirement.
11. **CASELOAD INFORMATION AND QUALITY CONTROL ERROR RATE FOR AFFECTED PORTION:** The Human Services Department has identified approximately 5,122 potential ABAWDS statewide. Of that number, approximately 693 are identified in the five counties included in this waiver extension request. The average error rate for FFY 98 for these counties is 5.2%. This includes errors for all elements, not only work requirement errors.
12. **ANTICIPATED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** The waiver is already implemented and would continue beginning April 1, 1999. Field staff will be informed of the areas affected upon approval of the extension request by FCS.
13. **PROPOSED QUALITY CONTROL (QC) PROCEDURES:** Quality Control will not apply the work requirement policy to individuals in areas approved under this waiver. Quality Control will continue to apply E & T work registration requirements to such individuals.
14. **SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF REQUESTING OFFICIAL:**


Patsy Barnett, Director
Income Support Division

15. **DATE OF REQUEST:**

WAIVER REQUEST

1. **WAIVER SERIAL NUMBER:** 970136
2. **TYPE OF REQUEST:** Extension
3. **PRIMARY REGULATION CITATION:** Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Title VIII of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.
4. **SECONDARY REGULATION CITATION:**
5. **STATE:** New Mexico
6. **REGION:** Southwest
7. **REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS:** Section 824 requires that certain individuals participating in the Food Stamp Program be working or participating in a work program for 20 hours a week, averaged over the month, in order to remain eligible to receive food stamp benefits.
8. **PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES:** The Human Services Department requests an extension of the waiver of the work requirement found in Section 824, which allows New Mexico to waive the work requirement in areas where there are not sufficient jobs to provide employment for individuals required to comply with the work requirement, as identified by the Department of Labor-Bureau of Labor Statistics.
9. **JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:** The Human Services Department through the DOL-BLS has identified Labor Surplus Areas. The most recent data for Labor Surplus Areas is for calendar year 1998.

The waiver currently includes counties which have been identified as Labor Surplus Areas by the Department of Labor. These counties are Chaves, Colfax, Dona Ana, Eddy, Grant, Lincoln, McKinley, San Juan, Socorro, and Torrance County. Four additional counties are being added to this waiver extension request. The Human Services Department includes in this waiver extension request the reservations and pueblos located in the Labor Surplus Areas.

The following are counties identified as Labor Surplus Areas for 1998.

LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

✓ Chaves	✓ McKinley	✓ Rio Arriba
✓ Colfax	✓ San Juan	✓ Sandoval
✓ Dona Ana	✓ Socorro	✓ <i>Less Rio Rancho city</i>

Not an LSA

Eddy	Torrance
Grant	Cibola
Lincoln	Otero

RESERVATIONS/PUEBLOS IN LABOR SURPLUS AREAS

- ✓ Alamo Band-Navajo Indian Reservation (Socorro County)
- ✓ Navajo Indian Reservation (San Juan and McKinley County)
- ✓ Ute Mountain Indian Reservation (San Juan County)
- ✓ Zuni Indian Reservation (Catron, Cibola, and McKinley County)
- ✓ Acoma, Laguna and Canoncito (Cibola County)
- ✓ Mescalero Apache Reservation (Otero)
- ✓ Jicarilla Reservation, San Juan and Santa Clara Pueblos (Rio Arriba county)
- ✓ Cochiti, Jemez, Laguna, Sandia, San Felipe, Santa Ana, Santo Domingo and Zia Pueblos (Sandoval County)

10. ANTICIPATED IMPACT ON HOUSEHOLDS AND STATE AGENCY

OPERATIONS: An individual residing in these counties will not be required to comply with the ABAWD work requirement in these Labor Surplus Areas. The State Agency case management activity will continue to be simplified with a waiver extension of the work requirement.

11. CASELOAD INFORMATION AND QUALITY CONTROL ERROR RATE FOR

AFFECTED PORTION: The Human Services Department has identified 5,122 potential ABAWDS statewide. Of that number approximately 4,629 are in the Labor Surplus Areas included in this waiver extension request. A significant number of recipients would be favorably affected by continuation of the waivers. The average error rate for FFY 98 for these counties is approximately 7.13%.

12. ANTICIPATED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: The waiver is already implemented and would continue beginning April 1, 1999. Field staff will be informed of additional areas upon approval of the extension request.

13. PROPOSED QUALITY CONTROL (QC) REVIEW PROCEDURES: Quality Control will not apply the work requirement policy to individuals in areas approved under this waiver. Quality Control will continue to apply E & T work registration requirements to such individuals.

14. SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF REQUESTING INDIVIDUAL:

Patsy Barnett
Patsy Barnett, Director
Income Support Division

2147678670

Apr-02-99 08:45am From-FOOD STAMPS

2147678670

T-555 P.07/09 F-118

15. DATE OF REQUEST:

WAIVER REQUEST

1. **WAIVER SERIAL NUMBER:** 970199
2. **TYPE OF REQUEST:** Extension
3. **PRIMARY REGULATION CITATION:** Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Title VIII of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.
4. **SECONDARY REGULATION CITATION:**
5. **STATE:** New Mexico
6. **REGION:** Southwest
7. **REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS:** Section 824 requires that certain individuals participating in the Food Stamp Program be working or participating in a work program for 20 hours a week, averaged over the month, in order to remain eligible to receive food stamp benefits.
8. **PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES:** The Human Services Department requests an extension of the waiver of the work requirement found in Section 824, which allows New Mexico to waive the work requirement in areas where the unemployment rate is over the national average or there are not sufficient jobs to provide employment for individuals required to comply with the work requirement, as identified by the Department of Labor-Bureau of Labor Statistics.
9. **JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:** Previously, Isleta Pueblo, Nambe Pueblo, Santa Clara Pueblo, and Tesuque Pueblo were waived because their respective unemployment rates were more than the National average. This year Santa Clara is being included in waiver 970136 as it located in a Labor surplus Area. A portion of Isleta Pueblo is also in a Labor Surplus Area, Torrance County. According to DOL information Isleta, Nambe, and Tesuque Pueblos continue to have unemployment rates above the national average, which as of February 1999 was 4.4% according to DOL. According to DOL information, San Ildefonso Pueblo's high unemployment rate warrants inclusion of the Pueblo in this waiver extension request.

Isleta Pueblo	4.7% in Valencia County and 9.1% in Bernalillo County
Nambe Pueblo	6.0%
Tesuque Pueblo	8.2%

Author: James Alexandria Va Walsh at FNSHQ1
Date: 4/30/98 10:02 AM
Priority: Normal
TO: Larry Tropp
Subject: Re: New Mexico ABAWD Waivers

----- Message Contents -----

Larry--The current New Mexico Waivers were signed 4/24/98:

#970135 (10%+ Unemployment): Catron, Cibola, Guadalupe, Luna, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel and Taos Counties.

#970136 (LSAs): Chaves, Colfax, Dona Ana, Eddy, Grant, Lincoln, McKinley, San Juan, Socorro and Torrance Counties.

#970199 (Indian Reservations, Pueblos over 10% unemployment):

Jicarilla Indian Reservation
Zia Pueblo
Mescalero Apache Reservation
Jemez Pueblo
Laguna Pueblo

(Indian Pueblos with unemployments rates 20% over National Average for a two-year period):

Isleta Pueblo
Nambe Pueblo
Santa Clara Pueblo
Tesuque Pueblo

--Jim Walsh

Reply Separator

Subject: New Mexico ABAWD Waivers
Author: Larry Tropp at FNSHQ1
Date: 4/29/98 2:44 PM

Jim,

I'm updating the ABAWD chart. To avoid any confusion, if Indian Reservations or Pueblos are included in counties which have been waived based on unemployment greater than 10 percent or LSA status, I've only counted the excluded counties, not the IRs or pueblos within the counties.

Larry

NEW MEXICO

Waiver 970135 (3/24/97)

10%+ Unemployment

Catron County
Cibola County
Colfax County
Guadalupe County
Luna County
Mora County
Rio Arriba County
San Juan County
Taos County
SAN MIGUEL
Jicarilla Indian Reservation
Zia Pueblo

Waiver 970136 (3/24/97)

LSAs

Eddy County
Dona Ana County
Grant County

McKinley County

Socorro County

Waiver 970199 (3/24/97)

Indian Reservations/Pueblos

Isleta Pueblo

Jemez Pueblo
Laguna Pueblo

Nambe Pueblo
Pojoaque Pueblo
Santa Clara Pueblo

Extension (4/24/98)

Catron County
~~Cibola County~~

Guadalupe County
Luna County
Mora County
~~Rio Arriba County~~

Taos County
SAN MIGUEL

Extension (4/24/98)

Chaves County
Colfax County
~~Eddy County~~
Dona Ana County
~~Grant County~~
~~Lincoln County~~
McKinley County
San Juan County
Socorro County
Torrance County

Extension (4/24/98)

rio Arriba, Cibola, Otero, Santa Clara, El Paso, Chgo
~~Isleta Pueblo~~
~~Jicarilla Indian Reservation~~ *Rio Arriba*
~~Jemez Pueblo~~ *Santa Clara*
~~Laguna Pueblo~~ *Santa Clara*
~~Mescalero Apache Res.~~ *Otero*
~~Nambe Pueblo~~

~~Santa Clara Pueblo~~ *Rio Arriba*
~~Tesuque Pueblo~~
~~Zia Pueblo~~ *Santa Clara*