



United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service

Western Region

814P22

CPK

Reply to
Attn of:

FS-10-6-OR/WAIVER #2000039

Subject:

FSP- Oregon- ABAWD Waiver Extension Request - Labor Surplus Areas and Certain
High Unemployment Areas

To:

MAR 16 2007

Art Foley, Director
Program Development Division
Food Stamp Program

Attached is Oregon's request to extend and modify waiver #2000039. This waiver exempts the State's Labor Surplus Areas (LSAs), and additional areas of high unemployment from the provisions of Section 6(o)(2) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996. Following is a list of counties and cities and their exemption method:

LSA Counties & Cities

Baker	Jefferson	Umatilla
Columbia	Josephine	Union
Coos	Klamath	Wallowa
Crook	Lake	Wasco
Curry	Lincoln	Wheeler
Douglas	Linn (including City of	City of Salem in Marion
Grant	Albany)	& Polk Counties
Harney	Malheur	City of Springfield in
Hood River	Morrow	Lane County
Jackson (including City of Medford)		

Counties and Cities with unemployment 20% higher than National average

Clatsop	Marion	City of Portland in
Deschutes (including City of Bend)	Multnomah	Clackamas, Multnomah, &
Gilliam	Polk	Washington Counties
Lane	Sherman	

The State attached the following data:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) listing counties and cities that are LSAs for fiscal year 2001.
- BLS statistics indicating the counties have had an unemployment rate 20% over the national average for the 24 month period of December 1998 through November 2000.

The State is requesting an extension of one year. We recommend renewal of the waiver.

If you have any questions, please contact Krister Engdahl at (415) 705-1320 x311.



DENNIS STEWART
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Western Region

Attachment

cc: Portland F/O (electronic)
POS, FSP, WRO
Eugene F/L (electronic)



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D., Governor

Department Of Human Services

Adult and Family Services Division

Human Services Building

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March 8, 2001

Dennis Stewart
Regional Director
USDA, FNS
Western Region
550 Kearny Street, Room 400
San Francisco, CA 94108-2518

Dear Mr. Stewart *Dennis*

On April 21, 2000, the Food and Nutrition Service approved a labor surplus waiver that allowed Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) who live in labor-surplus areas to be exempt from the three-month time limit for food stamps. The waiver period was for May 1, 2000 through April 30, 2001.

The U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration recently identified 21 counties, three partial counties and four cities in Oregon as labor-surplus areas. They are: Baker, Columbia, Coos, Crook, Curry, Douglas, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lincoln, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, and Wheeler. The three partial counties are: Deschutes (less city of Bend), Jackson (less city of Medford), and Linn (less city of Albany). The four cities are: Albany (in Linn county), Medford (in Jackson county), Salem (in Marion/Polk counties) and Springfield (in Lane county). We wish to include these labor surplus areas in an ABAWD time limit waiver for May 2001 through April 2002.

In addition to these labor surplus areas, we are requesting to waive the time limit in eight additional counties and one city. They are: Clatsop, Deschutes (including the city of Bend), Gilliam, Lane, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, and Sherman counties and the City of Portland. Each of these areas has experienced an averaged unemployment rate of at least 20 percent higher than the national average over a

"Assisting People to Become Independent, Healthy and Safe"

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**WAIVER REQUEST FOR ABAWDs
Labor Surplus Waiver**

Waiver serial number: 2000039

Type of request: Renewal

Primary regulation citation: Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 (PL. 104-193)

Secondary regulation citation, if any: None

State: Oregon

Region: Western

Regulatory requirements: Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended by Section 824 of PRWORA, provides that no individual, who is able bodied without a dependent (ABAWD), 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 work requirements of a work program for 20 hours or more 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.

The FS Act of 1977, Section 6(o)(4) allows the State the opportunity to request a waiver when it is determined that the area in which the individual resides has an unemployment rate of over 10 percent; or there are not sufficient jobs to provide

By combining the full counties, part counties and cities identified as LSA with those areas having an unemployment rate of at least 20% higher than the national average a total of 31 counties and one city is included in this waiver.

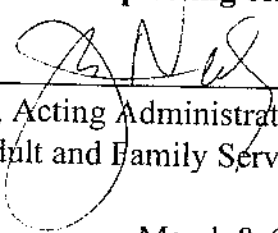
Justification for request: The ETA identifies labor surplus areas each year. In October 2000, ETA identified 21 Oregon counties, parts of three counties and four cities as LSA. The 21 Oregon counties are: Baker, Columbia, Coos, Crook, Curry, Douglas, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lincoln, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, and Wheeler. The three partial counties are: Deschutes (less city of Bend), Jackson (less city of Medford), and Linn (less city of Albany). The four Cities are: Albany (in Linn county), Medford (in Jackson county), Salem (in Marion/Polk counties) and Springfield (in Lane county).

In addition to these LSA areas, Oregon has identified eight additional counties and one city which are experiencing an unemployment rate that is more than 20% higher than the national average. These additional counties are: Clatsop, Deschutes (including the city of Bend), Gilliam, Lane, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, and Sherman and the City of Portland which is located in parts of Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties.

Using the newly codified regulations in 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2)(ii), Oregon chose to support this claim of high unemployment rate using BLS data for each area over a 24-month period where the average unemployment rate is 20 percent above the national average for the same 24-month period. Oregon chose the 24-month period of December 1998 through November 2000.

The 24-month average of the national unemployment rate for December 1998 through November 2000 was 4.1 percent. Twenty percent above 4.1 is 4.9. Using the most recent information published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, all eight of these counties and one city have unemployment rates that equal or exceeds 4.9 percent for the same period.

Signature and title of requesting official:



Jim Neely, Acting Administrator
Oregon Adult and Family Services

Date of Request: March 8, 2001

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(March 8, 2001)