



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

Mountain
Plains
Region

1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 903
Denver, Colorado 80204-3585

CPB

Lamy
mw 1/22/02

Reply to
Attn. of: MPFS-300:FS 10-1-1

JAN 17 2002

Subject: FSP – Request for Extension of Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependent Children (ABAWD)
Waiver No. 970129 – Missouri

To: Arthur T. Foley
Director
Program Development Division
Food Stamp Program
Food and Nutrition Service, USDA
Alexandria, Virginia 22302-1594

Attached is a request from the State of Missouri to extend and modify Waiver No. 970129. Under this waiver of Section 273.24(f)(1) of the Regulations, individuals in the following counties will be exempt from the ABAWD provisions:

Areas With Unemployment Rate 20 Percent Above National Average

✓ Benton ✓	✓ Macon ✓	✓ Shannon ✓
✓ Butler ✓	✓ Madison ✓	✓ Shelby ✓
✓ Carter ✓	✓ Miller ✓	✓ Stoddard ✓
✓ Clark ✓	✓ Mississippi ✓	✓ Stone ✓
✓ Crawford ✓	✓ Monroe ✓	✓ Taney ✓
✓ Dallas ✓	✓ New Madrid ✓	✓ Texas ✓
✓ Dent ✓	✓ Pemiscot ✓	✓ Washington ✓
✓ Douglas ✓	✓ Pulaski ✓	✓ Wayne ✓
✓ Dunklin ✓	✓ Reynolds ✓	✓ Worth ✓
✓ Hickory ✓	✓ Ripley ✓	✓ Wright ✓
✓ Iron ✓	✓ St. Francois ✓	✓ St. Louis City ✓
✓ Linn ✓		

Areas With Unemployment Rate 10 Percent Above National Average in Last 24 Months

Bates	Chariton (7.0)	✓ Morgan (7.0) - C.3 Last 12
✓ Bollinger (4.3)	Laclede	Ozark
Caldwell	Montgomery	Scott

Area With Unemployment Rate 10 Percent Above National Average: 1999-2000

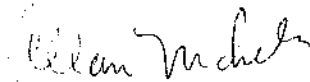
Camden County 6.1

Arthur T. Foley

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Based on the justification submitted with the State's request, we recommend approval of the waiver. Approval should cover the period of March 1, 2002 through February 28, 2003.

If there are any questions concerning this request, or if you need additional information, Kathie Herrman may be contacted at (303) 844-0347 or by e-mail at kathie.herrman@fns.usda.gov.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Allan Nickels".

ALLAN C. NICKELS
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program

Attachment



BOB HOLDEN
GOVERNOR

MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 88
JEFFERSON CITY
65103
TELEPHONE: 573-751-3221

RELAY MISSOURI
for hearing and speech impaired
TEXT TELEPHONE
1-800-735-2966
VOICE
1-800-735-2466

December 27, 2001

Allan C. Nickels
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
USDA Food and Nutrition Service
1244 Speer Blvd.
Denver, CO 80204-3585

Dear Mr. Nickels:

Attached, with supporting Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Data, is Missouri's request to extend the waiver of the three-month food stamp eligibility restriction for certain able-bodied adults without dependents age 18 to 50.

CFR 273.24(f)(1) allows FNS to waive the time limit for individuals in areas having unemployment rates over 10% or an insufficient number of jobs to provide employment.

Missouri's waiver extension is requested for counties determined to have an insufficient number of jobs to provide employment. According to current regulations, an area is considered to have an insufficient number of jobs if the unemployment rate is in excess of 20% of the national average for the same period of time.

Due to current economic conditions, Missouri is also requesting that counties in which the unemployment rate exceeds the national average by 10% also be waived from the three-month food stamp eligibility restriction. Ten Missouri counties meet this criteria.

Allan C. Nickels

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In order to determine areas included in this waiver request, Missouri reviewed both the past 24-month period and calendar years beginning January 1999 through December 2000.

If you have any questions, please contact Jody Cornwell at 573-751-3178 or email her at jcornwel@mail.state.mo.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Cross". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Denise Cross
Director

DC/JW/he

Attachment

STATE AGENCY: Ms. Janel R. Luck, IM Deputy Director
Missouri Division of Family Services
PO Box 88
Jefferson City, Missouri 65103
(573) 751-3124

AREAS COVERED BY THE REQUEST:

Areas with an unemployment rate 20% above the national average:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| . Benton County | . New Madrid |
| Butler | . Pemiscot |
| . Carter | . Pulaski |
| . Clark | . Reynolds |
| . Crawford | Ripley |
| Dallas | . St. Francois |
| . Dent | . Shannon |
| . Douglas | . Shelby |
| . Dunklin | . Stoddard |
| . Hickory | . Stone |
| . Iron | . Taney |
| . Linn | . Texas |
| Macon | . Washington |
| . Madison | . Wayne |
| . Miller | Worth |
| . Mississippi | . Wright |
| Monroe | . St. Louis City |

Areas with an unemployment rate 10% above the national average in the last 24 months:

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| Bates | . Montgomery |
| Bollinger | Morgan |
| . Caldwell | . Ozark |
| Chariton | Scott |
| Laclede | |

Area with an unemployment rate 10% above the national average January 1999 through December 2000:

Camden County

See attached Bureau of Labor Statistics Data (BLS) listing unemployment statistics for calendar years beginning January 1998 through September 2001.

CATEGORY UNDER WHICH WAIVER IS BEING REQUESTED:

Request due to lack of sufficient jobs i.e.: Areas with unemployment rates that exceed 20% of the national average in a recent 24-month period.

Due to current economic conditions, Missouri is also requesting a waiver for counties in which the unemployment rate exceeds the national average by 10%.

DURATION OF WAIVER: One year, March 1, 2002, through February 28, 2003.

Expires 2-28-02

BASIS FOR REQUEST: Current regulations at 273.24(f)(1)(ii) allow FNS to waive the time limit for individuals if it is determined the area in which the individuals reside does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment.

Areas with an insufficient number of jobs to provide employment are defined as those with unemployment rates that exceed the national average by 20%. BLS data indicates the national average unemployment rate for the period October 1999 through September 2001 is 4.2%. Therefore, 5.04%, was used to determine which areas in Missouri had unemployment rates in excess of 120% of the national average

To determine the areas in which the unemployment rate exceeded 10% of the national average, Missouri reviewed both the last 24 months and the two-year period beginning January 1999 through December 2000. 110% of the average unemployment rate for the last 24-month period of time was 4.62%. Nine counties exceeded this rate for the same period of time. 110% of the

average unemployment rate for the period beginning January 1999 through December 2000 was 4.51%. One county had an average unemployment rate that exceeded this rate for the same period of time.

BLS data is submitted to support Missouri's request to waive individuals in areas with average unemployment rates in excess of either 110% or 120% of the national average for the same periods of time.