

WAIVER REQUEST – KANSAS

1. **Waiver serial number:** 2040059
2. **Type of request:** Modification and Extension
3. **Primary regulation citation, if any:** Section 6 (o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, P.L. 104-193.
4. **Secondary regulation citation, if any:** 7 CFR 273.24 (f)(3)(iii)
5. **State:** Kansas
6. **Region:** Mountain Plains
7. **Regulatory requirements:** Under 7 CFR 273.24(b) individuals are not 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; participate in and comply with the requirements of a work program for 20 hours or more per week; or participate in and comply with requirements of a program under Section 20 or a comparable program established by the State.

Under 7 CFR 273.24(f), upon the request of a State agency, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) may waive the applicability of the above provision for any group of individuals in the State if the FNS makes a determination that the area in which the individuals reside has an unemployment rate of over 10 percent, or does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for the individuals.
8. **Proposed procedures:** The State of Kansas requests to waive individuals residing in the eastern region of the state. This region is a contiguous combination of sub-regions of Local Workforce Investment Areas. The Local Workforce Investment Areas are part of the Workforce Network of Kansas, which is advised by a board whose members are appointed by the Governor.¹

The State seeks waivers for contiguous areas that are eligible based on aggregate average unemployment rates of at least 20 percent above the national average during August 2005 – July 2007, when the national average unemployment rate plus 20 percent was 5.6.

¹ Please refer to the following Internet site for more information on Kansas' Local Workforce Investment Areas:<http://www.workforcenetworkkansas.org/index.htm>

Combined sub-regions of Local Workforce Investment Areas Two, Three, and Five:

Area	Unemployment Rate, AUG 2005 – JUL 2007	Area	Unemployment Rate, AUG 2005 – JUL 2007
Anderson County	5.2	Jackson County	5.6
Atchison County	5.1	Jefferson County	4.9
Bourbon County	4.5	Labette County	5.6
Brown County	4.3	Leavenworth County	5.7
Chautauqua County	5.2	Linn County	6.5
Cherokee County	5.3	Lyon County	4.3
Clay County	3.7	Miami County	4.7
Coffey County	5.3	Montgomery County	5.0
Crawford County	5.1	Osage County	5.6
Doniphan County	5.3	Shawnee County	4.9
Elk County	5.5	Wabaunsee County	4.0
Franklin County	5.4	Woodson County	5.6
Geary County	5.2	Wyandotte County	7.8
Greenwood County	5.0	Total for Sub-region	5.6

Jackson, Labette, Leavenworth, Linn, Osage, Woodson, and Wyandotte Counties qualify based on their average unemployment rates, which are at least 20 percent above the national average during August 2005 – July 2007.

Anderson, Atchison, Bourbon, Brown, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Clay, Coffey, Crawford, Doniphan, Elk, Franklin, Geary, Greenwood, Jefferson, Lyon, Miami, Montgomery, Shawnee and Wabaunsee Counties qualify for waivers based on the sub-region's aggregate average unemployment rate, which is at least 20 percent above the national average during August 2005 – July 2007.

Finally, the State requests a waiver for the city of Hutchinson, which is eligible based on their average unemployment rates, which are at least 20 percent above the national average during August 2005 – July 2007.

Area	Unemployment Rate, AUG 2005 – JUL 2007
Hutchinson city	5.7

9. **Justification for request:** As stated in number 8 above, the areas requested are designated as LSAs or have an average unemployment rate of at least 20 percent above the national average during a recent 24-month period. All of the raw data supporting our numbers that we have used are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) website.
10. **Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:** This waiver will provide consistency for households and State agency operations in areas where unemployment remains higher than the national average.
11. **Caseload information, including percent, characteristic, and quality control error rate for affected portion:** The caseload for these areas, as of January 2008 represents 2.23% of the caseload for the state. Our state reported error rate for FFY 2007 is 3.55%, down from our official rate for FFY 2006 of 6.39%. The

following chart lists the waived counties and city, the total FS participants in the county/city and the number of anticipated waived ABAWDs.

County	Total FS Participants	Anticipated # OF Waived ABAWDs
Anderson	712	25
Atchison	1,569	124
Bourbon	1,844	50
Brown	1,114	46
Chautauqua	262	3
Cherokee	2,670	142
Clay	441	18
Coffey	602	8
Crawford	4,456	209
Doniphan	584	18
Elk	272	10
Franklin	2,191	89
Geary	1,929	77
Greenwood	566	21
Jackson	811	22
Jefferson	830	47
Labette	2,178	114
Leavenworth	3,986	259
Linn	727	21
Lyon	2,924	98
Miami	1,611	31
Montgomery	3,394	184
Osage	1,103	58
Reno-Hutchinson City	3,064	179
Shawnee	16,269	1,023
Wabunsee	192	4
Woodson	287	11
Wyandotte	19,395	1,287
Total	75,983	4,178

12. **Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:**

The State is requesting a one-year waiver from May 1, 2008 through April 30, 2009.

13. **Proposed quality control review procedures:** There are no special quality control procedures needed in conjunction with this waiver.

14. **Signature and title of requesting official:**



Don Jordan, Secretary

15. **Date of request:** 1/22/08