

 Missouri Department of
SOCIAL SERVICES
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MATT BLUNT, GOVERNOR • DEBORAH E. SCOTT, DIRECTOR

FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

JANEL R. LUCK

PO BOX 2320, JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102-2320

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December 1, 2008

Jody Cornwell
Regional Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
USDA Food and Nutrition Service
Mountain Plains Region
1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 903
Denver, Colorado 80204-3585

Dear Ms. Cornwell:

Please find attached a request to modify and extend waiver 2070002 of regulations at 7CFR 273.24. This waiver, if approved, would permit Missouri to waive all counties from the able bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD) 18 to 50 year old work requirement policy.

We request your immediate consideration of the waiver request. If you have any questions regarding this waiver, please contact Rachel Morris at (573)751-3178 or Rachel.E.Morris@dss.mo.gov.

Sincerely,



Janel R. Luck
Director

JRL/rem

Attachments

WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver serial number:**
2070002
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)(2)(ii)
5. **State:**
Missouri
6. **Region:**
Mountain Plains
7. **Regulatory requirements:**
Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), P.L. 104-193, provides that no individual 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 requirement 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.

Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of PRWORA, also provides that, upon the request of a State agency, the Secretary may waive the applicability of the above provision for any group of individuals in the State if the Secretary makes a determination that the area in which the individuals resides 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:**
Missouri is requesting a modification and extension of its existing waiver to exempt residents residing in the entire State from the work requirements of 7

CFR 273.24 due to having insufficient jobs based on the U.S. Department of Labor data that the State qualifies for extended unemployment benefits.

26 USC 3304 (Public Law 102-318) allows States the option of providing an additional alternative trigger for the extended benefits program, based on the State's seasonally adjusted total unemployment rate (TUR) for the most recent three months reaching at least: (1) 6.5 percent; and (2) 110 percent of such TUR for the corresponding three-month periods ending in either or both of the two preceding calendar years.

The Department of Labor's Trigger Notice No. 2008-44¹ shows the State's 3-month average total unemployment rate (TUR) was: (1) 6.5 percent and (2) 125 percent of the 3-month average for the corresponding period in the first year and 132 percent of the 3-month average for the corresponding period in the second year, making the State eligible for extended unemployment benefits.

9. Justification for request:

This request to exempt residents residing in the entire State from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24 due to having insufficient jobs is based on the State qualifying for extended unemployment benefits within the past 12 months.

10. Caseload information: As of October 31, 2008, there are 332,156 households in Missouri. There are an estimated 5701 individuals who would be impacted by this waiver.

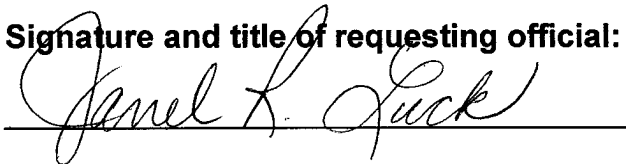
11. Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:

The State is requesting a one-year waiver from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

12. Proposed quality control review procedures:

There are no special quality control procedures needed in conjunction with this waiver.

13. Signature and title of requesting official:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet L. Luck", is written over a horizontal line.

14. Date of request:

¹ Extended Benefits Trigger Notices can be found at http://www.workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp. Trigger notice 2008-44 was issued the week of November 16, 2008.

TRIGGER NOTICE NO. 2008 - 44
STATE EXTENDED BENEFIT (E.B.) INDICATORS UNDER P.L. 102-318
Effective November 16, 2008

			INDICATORS					STATUS	
			13 Weeks Insured Unemployment Rate	Percent of Prior 2 Years	3 months S.A. T.U.R.	Percent of prior			Periods
						Year	Second Year	Available Weeks	Begin Date(B) End Date(E)
@	*	& Alabama	1.97	139	5.1	141	141		E 06-04-1983
		& Alaska	2.71	101	6.8	107	106		E 10-11-2008
		& Arizona	2.00	176	5.5	148	141		E 10-23-1982
		& Arkansas	2.85	124	4.7	85	88		E 03-26-1983
		& California	3.24	155	7.6	138	155		E 07-09-1983
		& Colorado	1.30	142	5.3	135	120		E 01-24-1981
		& Connecticut	2.77	133	6.1	132	135		E 01-24-1981
		& Delaware	2.37	140	4.7	146	134		E 07-17-1982
		& District of Col	1.07	120	6.9	121	118		E 01-24-1981
		& Florida	2.57	187	6.4	156	188		E 01-24-1981
		& Georgia	2.14	156	6.2	140	137		E 01-24-1981
		& Hawaii	2.22	200	4.2	155	175		E 01-24-1981
		& Idaho	2.17	183	4.5	166	145		E 06-22-2002
		& Illinois	2.38	130	7.1	139	161		E 06-25-1983
		& Indiana	2.37	153	6.3	143	126		E 04-30-1983
		& Iowa	1.51	130	4.4	115	118		E 06-04-1983
		& Kansas	1.65	139	4.7	117	109		E 11-06-1982
		& Kentucky	2.12	137	6.9	127	118		E 03-19-1983
		& Louisiana	1.59	145	4.6	121	127		E 02-25-2006
		& Maine	1.58	137	5.5	114	114		E 06-25-1994
		& Maryland	1.99	147	4.5	125	115		E 07-31-1982
		& Massachusetts	2.67	125	5.2	118	108		E 06-29-1991
		& Michigan	3.37	125	8.7	120	124		E 01-17-2004
		& Minnesota	1.54	120	6.0	133	153		E 06-18-1983
		& Mississippi	2.28	144	7.8	123	116		E 07-16-1983
		& Missouri	2.04	131	6.5	125	132		E 06-19-1982
		& Montana	1.67	145	4.3	138	134		E 06-04-1983
		& Nebraska	1.02	112	3.5	112	112		E 01-24-1981
		& Nevada	3.26	193	7.0	142	166		E 04-23-1983
		& New Hampshire	1.40	155	4.1	120	117		E 01-24-1981
		& New Jersey	3.26	125	5.7	135	121		E 06-19-1982
		& New Mexico	1.69	126	4.2	123	100		E 11-27-1982
		& New York	2.30	123	5.6	121	124		E 01-24-1981
		& North Carolina	2.75	150	6.8	144	141	13	B 10-05-2008
		& North Dakota	0.62	129	3.6	112	112		E 06-11-1983
		& Ohio	2.10	143	7.3	128	132		E 05-14-1983
		& Oklahoma	1.15	126	4.0	93	95		E 01-24-1981
		& Oregon	3.31	155	6.3	118	116		E 01-10-2004
		& Pennsylvania	3.11	125	5.6	127	121		E 08-06-1983
		& Puerto Rico	4.93	148	11.6	102	108		E 01-01-2000
		& Rhode Island	2.97	131	8.4	164	164	20	B 11-09-2008
		& South Carolina	3.09	153	7.3	125	115		E 03-19-1983
		& South Dakota	0.38	115	3.2	110	103		E 01-24-1981
		& Tennessee	1.90	139	6.9	146	135		E 09-25-1982
		& Texas	1.30	125	4.9	113	100		E 01-24-1981
		& Utah	1.20	198	3.6	128	124		E 06-25-1983
		& Vermont	1.96	139	5.0	131	131		E 07-13-1991
		& Virgin Islands	1.97	152	4.5	118	180		E 08-06-1983
		& Virginia	1.15	139	4.4	141	141		E 01-24-1981