



Department of Public Health and Human Services

Human and Community Services Division ♦ PO Box 202925 ♦ Helena, MT 59620-2925

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Steve Bullock, Governor

Richard H. Opper, Director

January 21, 2014

Cheryl Kennedy, Regional Division Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 903
Denver, CO 80204-3585

Dear Ms. Kennedy:

Please find attached Montana's request to extend the statewide ABWAD waiver. Montana used its status as a state that qualified for Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC). States on the DOL "trigger" notice automatically qualify for a statewide waiver from the time limit for up to 12 months after they were on the list. Montana triggered off of EUC in January 2013. Montana would therefore be eligible for statewide 1-year ABAWD waiver going from January 2014-January 2015, which would essentially extend Montana's current statewide waiver for four months (October 2014-January 2015).

I'm attaching the following documents to complete the waiver extension request:

- Waiver request cover letter
- Waiver extension request;
- Copy of EUC trigger notice from January 2013
- FNS guidance which establishes that EUC eligibility may be used in place of traditional Extended Benefits (EB) eligibility and the 12-month look-back for EUC trigger notices.

Thank you in advance for assisting us in obtaining this waiver request. If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact me at (406)444-5685.

Sincerely,

Melinda Cummings

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Manager