

STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):**
2150020
2. **Type of request:**
Extension and modification
3. **Statutory citation:**
Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended
4. **Regulatory citation:**
7 CFR 273.24
5. **State:**
Connecticut
6. **Region:**
NERO
7. **Regulatory requirements:**

Under 7 CFR 273.24(b) individuals are not eligible to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as a member of any household if the individual received program benefits for more than 3 months during any 3 year period in which the individual was subject to, but did not comply with, the SNAP work requirements. Regulations at 273.24(a) provide that fulfilling the work requirement means: working 20 hours or more per week, averaged monthly; participating in and complying with the requirements of a work program or a workfare program for at least 20 hours per week; or any combination of working and participating in a work program for a total of 20 hours per week.

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 time limit described above for any group of individuals in the State if FNS makes a determination that the area in which the individuals reside does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for the individuals.
8. **Description of alternative procedures:**
The State of Connecticut is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in 116 towns and cities from SNAP time limits at 7 CFR 273.24.
9. **Justification for request:**
Under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2), areas may qualify for an ABAWD time limit waiver if they have insufficient jobs. To support this claim, states may

submit evidence that an area has an average unemployment rate for a 24-month time period that is at least 20 percent above the national average for the same 24-month period. 7 CFR 273.24(f)(6) provides that States may define areas to be waived.

The State of Connecticut seeks a waiver for a region of 116 contiguous cities and towns based on the region's combined average unemployment rate that is 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of May 2014 through April 2016. The national average unemployment rate for this 24-month period was 5.5 percent; 20 percent above this was 6.5 percent. The region's average unemployment rate for this period is 6.5 percent.

May 2014 – April 2016		
County	Total Unemployed	Total Labor Force
Andover town, CT	2,198	46,197
Ansonia city/town, CT	18,917	227,349
Ashford town, CT	2,970	60,779
Barkhamsted town, CT	2,705	55,162
Beacon Falls town, CT	4,418	81,728
Berlin town, CT	13,559	279,953
Bethel town, CT	12,514	256,936
Bethlehem town, CT	2,310	46,981
Bloomfield town, CT	17,795	274,463
Bozrah town, CT	2,013	34,779
Branford town, CT	20,003	382,511
Bridgeport city/town, CT	155,693	1,711,992
Bridgewater town, CT	991	20,658
Bristol city/town, CT	52,860	790,184
Brookfield town, CT	10,369	223,634
Brooklyn town, CT	6,076	98,371
Canterbury town, CT	4,181	68,674
Chaplin town, CT	1,865	29,922
Clinton town, CT	8,664	174,524
Colchester town, CT	10,598	224,770
Colebrook town, CT	947	20,193
Columbia town, CT	3,747	77,224
Coventry town, CT	8,645	184,543
Cromwell town, CT	9,405	190,071
Derby city/town, CT	11,929	165,119
East Haddam town, CT	6,210	119,868
East Hampton town, CT	8,261	181,930
East Hartford town, CT	50,329	659,234
East Haven town, CT	25,030	378,362
East Lyme town, CT	11,180	207,167
East Windsor town, CT	9,403	155,512
Eastford town, CT	979	22,366
Enfield town, CT	31,809	551,486
Essex town, CT	3,906	79,909
Fairfield town, CT	34,033	696,717
Franklin town, CT	1,428	25,904
Goshen town, CT	1,889	39,607
Griswold town, CT	10,909	152,080

Groton town, CT	24,192	444,784
Hamden town, CT	44,299	839,652
Hampton town, CT	1,349	24,648
Hartford city/town, CT	141,853	1,301,622
Harwinton town, CT	3,495	76,818
Killingly town, CT	16,393	229,780
Lebanon town, CT	4,959	97,662
Ledyard town, CT	9,709	191,055
Lisbon town, CT	3,500	56,289
Manchester town, CT	45,269	783,543
Mansfield town, CT	16,100	300,007
Meriden city/town, CT	58,093	773,347
Middlebury town, CT	4,136	91,265
Middlefield town, CT	2,886	59,946
Middletown city/town, CT	36,831	627,049
Milford (consolidated) city/town, CT	36,878	714,204
Monroe town, CT	12,714	245,228
Montville town, CT	14,245	225,958
Morris town, CT	1,578	34,350
Naugatuck borough/town, CT	28,328	415,642
New Britain city/town, CT	74,991	880,913
New Hartford town, CT	4,792	95,593
New Haven city/town, CT	121,422	1,542,773
New London city/town, CT	25,004	290,426
New Milford town, CT	18,415	371,921
Newington town, CT	20,407	412,993
Norfolk town, CT	1,128	21,738
North Canaan town, CT	1,948	40,820
North Haven town, CT	15,647	318,474
North Stonington town, CT	3,558	69,640
Norwalk city/town, CT	61,158	1,206,012
Norwich city/town, CT	36,649	489,993
Old Lyme town, CT	4,224	89,865
Old Saybrook town, CT	5,888	121,461
Oxford town, CT	8,403	170,649
Plainfield town, CT	15,186	207,792
Plainville town, CT	13,848	249,592
Plymouth town, CT	11,300	161,002
Pomfret town, CT	2,540	59,176
Portland town, CT	6,431	130,707
Preston town, CT	3,447	58,204
Prospect town, CT	6,549	132,637
Putnam town, CT	8,030	116,035
Salem town, CT	2,790	50,807
Scotland town, CT	1,211	22,908
Seymour town, CT	13,627	216,417
Shelton city/town, CT	29,905	530,786
Somers town, CT	6,147	123,545
Southbury town, CT	11,184	211,865
Southington town, CT	28,253	580,564
Sprague town, CT	2,681	39,111
Stafford town, CT	10,172	163,526
Sterling town, CT	3,733	48,727
Stonington town, CT	11,567	229,915
Stratford town, CT	44,910	664,797

Thomaston town, CT	5,895	113,191
Thompson town, CT	6,969	124,766
Torrington city/town, CT	30,998	476,138
Trumbull town, CT	21,270	434,657
Union town, CT	542	11,093
Vernon town, CT	23,517	408,967
Voluntown town, CT	2,141	35,675
Wallingford town, CT	31,721	626,716
Warren town, CT	962	19,196
Waterbury city/town, CT	118,143	1,227,201
Waterford town, CT	12,887	243,250
Watertown town, CT	15,804	311,301
West Haven city/town, CT	51,516	720,527
Westbrook town, CT	4,413	86,216
Westport town, CT	13,012	299,370
Wethersfield town, CT	17,079	335,158
Winchester town, CT	9,473	151,614
Windham town, CT	21,935	298,995
Windsor Locks town, CT	10,113	176,022
Windsor town, CT	22,504	395,673
Wolcott town, CT	11,577	235,051
Woodbury town, CT	6,004	132,777
Woodstock town, CT	4,926	99,083
Total for Region	2,168,091	33,613,729
Combined Region Unemployment Rate	6.5%	
20% Above National Average Threshold	6.5%	

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, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affection portion (if applicable):

The caseload for these areas, as of June 2016, represent 91.54% of the caseload for the state. There are no quality control procedures involved.

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

The State is requesting a one-year waiver, from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

13. Proposed quality control review procedures:

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

14. State agency submitting waiver request and State contact person:

Connecticut Department of Social Services
Marc Shok, Director – Eligibility Policy and Program Support

15. Signature and title of requesting official:

Kathleen M. Brennan
Deputy Commissioner for RLB

Roderick L. Bremby, Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Social Services

16. Date of request: July 14, 2016

17. State agency staff contact

Marc Shok, Director – Eligibility Policy and Program Support
Connecticut Department of Social Services
(860) 424-5246
Marc.shok@ct.gov

18. Regional office contact person (*to be completed by FNS regional office*):