



Bruce Rauner, Governor

Illinois Department of Human Services

James T. Dimas, Secretary

100 South Grand Avenue, East • Springfield, Illinois 62762
401 South Clinton Street • Chicago, Illinois 60607

October 21, 2016

Ms. Susan Holzer, Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Midwest Region
USDA Food and Nutrition Service
77 West Jackson Blvd., 20th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507

Dear Ms. Holzer:

Illinois is requesting waiver approval under Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity and Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA). This waiver request is to exempt Illinois residents for the entire state from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24, to be effective January 1, 2017 and remain in effect through December 31, 2017.

We believe Illinois qualifies for a statewide waiver based on the U.S. Department of Labor data that indicates the State qualifies for extended unemployment insurance benefits.

Included in the attached is the U.S. Department of Labor Trigger Notice No. 2016-19 to support our request. If you have any questions, please let me know. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Leslie Cully
Illinois SNAP Director
IDHS Family & Community Services

Attachments

Cc: Diane Grigsby Jackson
Tim Verry
Martha Bradley

STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):**
2150013
2. **Type of request:**
Extension
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:**
Illinois
6. **Region:**
MWRO
7. **Regulatory requirements:**
Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, provides that no able-bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD) shall be 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 ABAWD work requirement. Section 6(o) also provides that, upon the request of the State agency, the Secretary may waive the applicability of the 3-month ABAWD time limit for any group of individuals in the State if the Secretary 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. **Description of alternative procedures:**
The State of Illinois is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in the entire State from SNAP time limits at 7 CFR 273.24.
9. **Justification for request:**
The State of Illinois is requesting to waive the ABAWD time limit for the entire State 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. 2016 – 19¹ shows the State's 3-month average total unemployment rate (TUR) was: (1) 6.5 percent and (2) 110 percent of the 3-month average for the corresponding period in the first preceding year, making the State eligible for extended unemployment benefits.

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): This waiver affects the entire 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:

Illinois Department of Human Services
Leslie Cully, Illinois SNAP Director

15. Signature and title of requesting official:



Title: Illinois SNAP Director

Email for transmission of response: Leslie.Cully@illinois.gov

16. Date of request: October 20, 2017

17. State agency staff contact (name/email/telephone):

Leslie Cully
Leslie.Cully@illinois.gov
217-524-9156

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

¹ Extended Benefits Trigger Notices can be found at http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp. Trigger notice 2016-19 was issued the week of May 22, 2016.

TRIGGER NOTICE NO. 2016 - 19
STATE EXTENDED BENEFIT (EB) INDICATORS UNDER P.L. 112-240
Effective May 22, 2016

			INDICATORS					STATUS	
			13 Weeks Insured Unemployment Rate	Percent of Prior Years	3 months S.A. TUR	Percent of Prior Year	Second Year	Available Weeks	Begin Date(B) End Date(E)
		& Alabama	1.14	79	6.2	102	86		E 04-21-2012
		Alaska	4.15	92	6.6	103	94		E 05-04-2013
		& Arizona	1.09	79	5.4	87	77		E 06-11-2011
		& Arkansas	1.54	74	4.1	75	64		E 09-26-2009
		& California	2.49	83	5.4	82	68		E 05-12-2012
		& Colorado	1.29	76	3.0	75	55		E 05-12-2012
		Connecticut	2.66	80	5.6	95	81		E 05-12-2012
*		& Delaware	1.65	78	4.4	90	73		E 04-21-2012
		& District of Col	1.43	79	6.5	90	83		E 06-09-2012
*		& Florida	0.60	54	4.9	88	75		E 05-12-2012
*		& Georgia	0.80	71	5.5	90	75		E 04-21-2012
		& Hawaii	1.08	69	3.1	79	67		E 01-24-1981
		& Idaho	1.55	79	3.8	90	76		E 08-11-2012
		& Illinois	2.61	87	6.5	110	84		E 05-12-2012
		& Indiana	0.98	74	5.0	98	83		E 04-21-2012
*		& Iowa	1.73	95	3.8	103	88		E 06-04-1983
		Kansas	1.15	78	3.9	91	85		E 04-07-2012
*		& Kentucky	1.38	62	5.6	106	78		E 04-07-2012
		& Louisiana	1.19	107	6.1	92	109		E 02-25-2006
		& Maine	1.84	73	3.4	74	58		E 02-18-2012
		& Maryland	1.67	78	4.7	89	80		E 04-21-2012
		& Massachusetts	2.48	83	4.3	84	73		E 04-07-2012
*		& Michigan	2.02	82	4.8	83	63		E 02-18-2012
		Minnesota	2.10	93	3.7	103	84		E 01-14-2012
		& Mississippi	1.08	75	6.3	95	81		E 07-16-1983
		& Missouri	1.13	69	4.2	81	66		E 04-07-2012
		& Montana	2.49	89	4.2	102	88		E 06-19-2010
		& Nebraska	0.64	66	3.0	107	88		E 01-24-1981
		& Nevada	2.04	79	5.9	84	71		E 07-07-2012
*		New Hampshire	0.94	70	2.6	70	58		E 08-14-2010
		New Jersey	2.89	84	4.5	74	65		E 07-07-2012
		& New Mexico	1.82	90	6.3	97	91		E 01-28-2012
		& New York	2.01	82	4.8	86	73		E 12-09-2012
		North Carolina	0.67	54	5.5	95	85		E 05-12-2012
*		& North Dakota	1.88	154	3.1	115	115		E 06-11-1983
		& Ohio	1.48	86	5.1	100	84		E 04-07-2012
		& Oklahoma	1.50	123	4.4	105	92		E 01-24-1981
		Oregon	1.78	75	4.6	81	65		E 04-07-2012
		& Pennsylvania	2.72	87	4.9	92	79		E 05-12-2012
		& Puerto Rico	2.56	84	11.7	96	82		E 12-18-2010
		Rhode Island	2.52	81	5.4	86	64		E 07-07-2012
		& South Carolina	0.81	77	5.7	89	93		E 04-07-2012
*		& South Dakota	0.62	89	2.6	81	74		E 01-24-1981
		& Tennessee	0.94	77	4.6	77	71		E 04-07-2012
		& Texas	1.55	108	4.4	100	81		E 05-12-2012
*		& Utah	0.99	81	3.5	100	90		E 06-25-1983
		Vermont	2.04	89	3.3	89	83		E 07-10-2010
		& Virgin Islands	1.44	63	4.0	57	54		E 08-06-1983
		& Virginia	0.89	91	4.0	85	75		E 05-14-2011
*		Washington	1.80	83	5.8	104	94		E 04-21-2012
		& West Virginia	2.88	109	6.5	94	96		E 06-09-2012
		& Wisconsin	1.78	61	4.5	98	79		E 04-07-2012
*		& Wyoming	3.05	152	5.2	130	124		E 06-13-1987

Total Number 'ON': 0

0

0

* - State does not have 6 % IUR option in law.

USDOL/ETA/OUI/DFAS

& - State does not have TUR option in law.

5/20/2016

@ - State "ON" by 3-month average TUR.

- State "ON" by 13-week IUR.

IUR reflects 13-week period ending May 7, 2016.

TUR reflects avg. seasonally adjusted TUR for 3-month period ending April 2016.