

STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150020
2. **Type of request:** Amendment and 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:** Connecticut
6. **Region:** NERO

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 Connecticut is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in 114 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 114 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 April 2015 through March 2017. The national average unemployment rate for this 24-month period was 5.0 percent; 20 percent above this was 5.9 percent. The region's average unemployment rate for this period is 5.9 percent.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data
April 2015 - March 2017

Cities/Towns	Total Unemployed	Total Labor Force
Andover town	1,925	46,220
Ansonia city/town	16,547	225,375
Ashford town	2,695	61,046
Barkhamsted town	2,460	55,155
Beacon Falls town	3,950	82,415
Bethany town	3,011	74,192
Bethlehem town	2,104	47,088
Bloomfield town	15,839	274,159
Bozrah town	1,661	34,691
Branford town	17,844	383,121
Bridgeport city/town	137,302	1,706,373
Bridgewater town	776	20,447
Bristol city/town	47,006	789,770
Brooklyn town	5234	98,685
Canterbury town	3,590	69,115
Chaplin town	1,707	30,014
Clinton town	7,539	174,283
Colchester town	9,382	224,781
Colebrook town	909	20,123
Columbia town	3,309	77,306
Coventry town	7,695	185,737
Cromwell town	8379	189,761
Deep River town	2,733	68,543
Derby city/town	10,799	164,249
East Haddam town	5,643	119,918
East Hampton town	7,687	182,830
East Hartford town	44,499	656,434
East Haven town	22,248	377,936
East Lyme town	10,036	211,232
East Windsor town	8,548	156,545
Eastford town	863	22,707
Ellington town	9,632	220,378
Enfield town	30,096	554,053
Essex town	3407	80,062
Franklin town	1,175	25,965
Goshen town	1,697	39,763
Griswold town	9,664	151,824
Groton town	20,865	442,654
Hamden town	39,954	840,616

Hampton town	1,269	24,663
Hartford city/town	125,792	1,289,740
Hartland town	1,148	27,392
Harwinton town	3,169	76,819
Killingly town	14,327	229,752
Lebanon town	4,521	97,878
Ledyard town	8,418	191,329
Lisbon town	3,157	56,327
Manchester town	40,400	784,127
Mansfield town	14,855	302,351
Meriden city/town	50,150	769,135
Middlebury town	3,785	92,441
Middlefield town	2,618	60,043
Middletown city/town	32,802	624,858
Milford (consolidated) city/town	33,418	719,168
Monroe town	11,414	245,409
Montville town	12,313	224,522
Morris town	1,380	34,273
Naugatuck borough/town	25,016	415,070
New Britain city/town	65,743	878,546
New Fairfield town	7,633	173,946
New Hartford town	4,150	95,396
New Haven city/town	106,812	1,543,275
New London city/town	21,644	289,139
New Milford town	16,630	370,606
Newington town	18,543	413,687
Norfolk town	991	21,638
North Canaan town	1,861	40,907
North Haven town	14,110	319,189
North Stonington town	2,965	69,777
Norwich city/town	31,469	488,321
Old Lyme town	3,574	89,997
Old Saybrook town	5,444	121,644
Oxford town	7,578	172,412
Plainfield town	13,063	207,140
Plainville town	12,370	249,939
Plymouth town	9,949	159,840
Pomfret town	2,144	59,292
Portland town	6,044	130,801
Preston town	2,994	58,164
Prospect town	5,729	133,447
Putnam town	7,046	115,735
Salem town	2,530	51,305

Scotland town	1,091	22,947
Seymour town	12,097	215,731
Shelton city/town	26,749	531,684
Somers town	5,685	126,327
Southbury town	10,361	210,679
Southington town	24,985	582,674
Sprague town	2,360	39,013
Stafford town	9,167	163,486
Sterling town	3,162	48,624
Stonington town	9,889	230,099
Stratford town	40,430	663,844
Thomaston town	5,088	112,727
Thompson town	6,435	125,451
Torrington city/town	27,982	469,411
Union town	488	11,155
Vernon town	20,647	407,952
Voluntown town	1,870	35,833
Wallingford town	28,012	626,832
Warren town	850	19,117
Waterbury city/town	103,696	1,219,515
Waterford town	11,497	243,715
Watertown town	14,203	311,402
West Haven city/town	45,052	721,042
Westbrook town	4,069	86,811
Wethersfield town	15,457	335,522
Winchester town	8,168	149,123
Windham town	19,115	297,224
Windsor Locks town	9,312	177,286
Windsor town	20,035	396,075
Wolcott town	10,515	235,890
Woodbury town	5,300	132,717
Woodstock town	4,477	99,612
Total for Region	1,799,622	30,754,526
Combined Region Unemployment Rate	5.9%	
20% Above National Average Threshold	5.9%	

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 2017, represents 88.93% 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, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

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
Daniel Giacomi, SNAP Program Manager

15. Signature and title of requesting official:



Roderick L. Bremby, Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Social Services
Roderick.Bremby@ct.gov

16. Date of request: June 22, 2017

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

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