

BRIAN SANDOVAL  
*Governor*



RICHARD WHITLEY, MS  
*Director*

STEVE H. FISHER  
*Administrator*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
**DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**

1470 College Parkway  
Carson City, Nevada 89706  
Telephone (775) 684-0500  
<http://dwss.nv.gov>

July 5, 2017

Dennis Stewart, Regional Director  
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program  
Western Region  
90 Seventh Street, Suite 10-100  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Stewart,

Nevada requests an extension of Waiver 2150026, which waives limits on receipt of benefits for able-bodied adults without dependents. The existing waiver is scheduled to expire on 12/31/2017.

Nevada is requesting an extension of its existing waiver to exempt residents residing in the entire state from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24, due to insufficient jobs in Nevada. Based on the information provided by the U.S. Department of Labor, Nevada's applicable unemployment rate is 20 percent above the national average.

If you require additional information, please contact Sheri Gallucci, Program Specialist III, at (775) 684-0608 or e-mail [sgallucci@dwss.nv.gov](mailto:sgallucci@dwss.nv.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve H. Fisher".

Steve H. Fisher  
Administrator

Attachments

CC: Kaci OBrien , Policy & Integrity Team Leader, FNS  
Naomi Lewis, Deputy Administrator, Program/Field Operations  
Sherry Haar, Chief, Eligibility & Payments  
Lori Wilson, Chief, Employment and Support Services  
Sheri Gallucci, SNAP Specialist

## STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150026
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:** Nevada
6. **Region:** WRO
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 Nevada is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) throughout the State 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 support a claim of insufficient jobs by submitting evidence that an area has an average unemployment rate for a 24-month time period that exceeds the national average for the same 24-month period by 20 percent. 7 CFR 273.24(f)(6) provides that States may define areas to be waived.

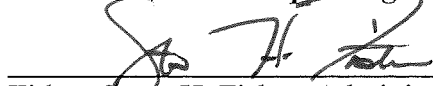
The State of Nevada seeks a statewide waiver based on the state's aggregate average unemployment rate for the 24-month period of May 2015 through April 2017. The national average unemployment rate for this 24-month period was 4.9 percent; 20 percent above this was 5.9 percent. The State's average unemployment rate for this period was 5.9 percent.

| Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data<br>May 2015 through April 2017 |             |             |                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
|                                                                                        | Unemployed  | Labor Force | Unemployment Rate |
| Nevada                                                                                 | 2,002,024   | 34,210,157  | 5.9%              |
| <b>20% Above National Average Threshold</b>                                            | <b>5.9%</b> |             |                   |

10. **Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:** This waiver will provide consistency for state operations.
11. **Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affection portion (if applicable):** This waiver affects the entire state.
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:**  
Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

Contact Person: Steve H. Fisher, Administrator  
 Division of Welfare and Supportive Services  
 1470 College Parkway  
 Carson City, NV 89706  
[shfisher@dwss.nv.gov](mailto:shfisher@dwss.nv.gov)

15. **Signature and title of requesting official:**



Title: Steve H. Fisher, Administrator

Email for transmission of response: [shfisher@dwss.nv.gov](mailto:shfisher@dwss.nv.gov)

16. **Date of request:** 07/05/2017

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

Sheri Gallucci, Program Specialist  
Division of Welfare and Supportive Services  
[sgallucci@dwss.nv.gov](mailto:sgallucci@dwss.nv.gov)  
775-684-0608

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

NEVADA IS ELIGIBLE FOR AN ABAWD TIME LIMIT WAIVER ON THE BASIS OF

MAY 2015 - APR 2017

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

|        |                                                                          |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Step 1 | Please see worksheet entitled "Step 1-4" for monthly labor force numbers |
| Step 2 | Please see worksheet entitled "Step 1-4" for 24-month labor force totals |
| Step 3 | Please see worksheet entitled "Step 1-4" for monthly unemployed numbers  |
| Step 4 | Please see worksheet entitled "Step 1-4" for 24-month unemployed totals  |

|                                            | from Step 2         |  | from Step 4                |  | Step 5                                |  | Step 6                                      |  | Step 7                                        |  |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|--|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------|--|
|                                            | MAY 2015 - APR 2017 |  | MAY 2015 - APR 2017        |  | MAY 2015 - APR 2017                   |  | MAY 2015 - APR 2017                         |  | MAY 2015 - APR 2017                           |  |
|                                            | Total labor force   |  | Total number of unemployed |  | Average Unemployment Rate (unrounded) |  | Average Unemployment Rate (multiply by 100) |  | Average Unemployment Rate (one decimal place) |  |
| Nevada                                     | 34,210,157          |  | 2,002,024                  |  | 0.058521                              |  | 5.85                                        |  | 5.9                                           |  |
| National Unemployment                      | 3,808,557           |  | 187,202                    |  | 0.049153                              |  | 4.91                                        |  | 4.9                                           |  |
| Threshold - 20% Above the National Average |                     |  |                            |  | 0.05889                               |  | 5.89                                        |  | 5.9                                           |  |

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Dept. of Labor  
Underlying data are available at [www.bls.gov/lau/](http://www.bls.gov/lau/), and are attached.