

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 108 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 108 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 March 2016 through February 2018. The national average unemployment rate for this 24-month period was 4.5 percent; 20 percent above this was 5.4 percent. The region's average unemployment rate for this period is 5.4 percent.

**Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data
March 2016 through February 2018**

Cities/Towns	Total Unemployed	Total Labor Force
Andover town	1,912	46,952
Ansonia city/town	14,836	225,818
Ashford town	2,784	61,912
Barkhamsted town	2,521	55,975
Beacon Falls town	3,895	83,941
Bethany town	2,953	75,415
Bethlehem town	2,396	47,498
Bloomfield town	14,761	276,867
Bozrah town	1,490	35,078
Branford town	16,891	389,180
Bridgeport city/town	120,246	1,695,708
Bridgewater town	744	20,412
Bristol city/town	42,730	796,872
Brooklyn town	4833	100,059
Canterbury town	3,371	70,256
Chaplin town	1,595	30,279
Clinton town	6,926	176,049
Colchester town	9,090	227,869
Colebrook town	1082	20,333
Columbia town	3,098	78,350
Coventry town	7,518	188,822
Cromwell town	8038	192,128
Derby city/town	9,874	165,221
East Haddam town	5,453	121,122
East Hampton town	7,430	186,270
East Hartford town	39,583	656,961
East Haven town	20,629	382,994
East Lyme town	9,203	210,613
East Windsor town	8,103	158,771
Eastford town	920	23,219
Ellington town	9363	226,258
Enfield town	28,227	564,005
Franklin town	1,045	26,069
Goshen town	1492	39,839
Griswold town	8,586	153,747
Groton town	18,886	448,082
Hamden town	38,001	856,262
Hampton town	1,183	25,005
Hartford city/town	110,599	1,290,972
Hartland town	1,113	27,714

Harwinton town	3,022	77,695
Killingly town	12,400	232,281
Lebanon town	4,688	98,353
Ledyard town	7,595	194,226
Lisbon town	3,020	57,380
Manchester town	37,820	795,206
Mansfield town	13,761	305,884
Meriden city/town	44,743	775,909
Middlebury town	4,020	94,272
Middlefield town	2,508	61,001
Middletown city/town	30,211	631,738
Milford (consolidated) city/town	32,144	734,719
Monroe town	11,266	246,844
Montville town	10,831	227,423
Morris town	1,252	34,423
Naugatuck borough/town	23,180	418,174
New Britain city/town	58,138	884,269
New Fairfield town	7,071	174,105
New Hartford town	3,782	96,306
New Haven city/town	95,886	1,560,586
New London city/town	19,349	292,409
New Milford town	15,385	371,201
Newington town	17,564	418,450
Norfolk town	870	21,767
North Canaan town	1,748	41,530
North Haven town	13,571	324,185
North Stonington town	2,766	71,128
Norwich city/town	26,539	492,637
Old Lyme town	3,571	91,328
Old Saybrook town	5,064	123,173
Oxford town	7,294	174,273
Plainfield town	11,686	210,525
Plainville town	12,435	253,566
Plymouth town	8,787	161,026
Portland town	5,949	132,693
Preston town	2,893	59,089
Prospect town	5,475	135,575
Putnam town	6,397	117,348
Salem town	2,462	52,253
Scotland town	1,097	23,227
Seymour town	10,903	218,767
Shelton city/town	25,574	538,984
Somers town	5,354	124,732

Southbury town	9,708	211,889
Southington town	24,336	591,525
Sprague town	2,097	39,290
Stafford town	8,322	164,481
Sterling town	2,800	49,117
Stratford town	37,209	664,911
Thomaston town	4,745	113,966
Thompson town	6,152	127,627
Torrington city/town	25,939	466,232
Vernon town	19,126	416,793
Voluntown town	1,780	36,140
Wallingford town	27,092	636,385
Warren town	791	19,283
Waterbury city/town	93552	1,223,304
Waterford town	10,826	246,812
Watertown town	13,426	313,543
West Haven city/town	40,445	727,111
Westbrook town	3704	88,733
Wethersfield town	15,187	339,737
Winchester town	7,668	148,527
Windham town	18,013	299,185
Windsor Locks town	8788	180,153
Windsor town	19,369	401,161
Wolcott town	10,556	239,426
Woodstock town	4,548	101,569
Total for Region	1,629,650	30,456,457
Combined Region Unemployment Rate	5.4%	
20% Above National Average Threshold	5.4%	

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 2018, represent 87.88% 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, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

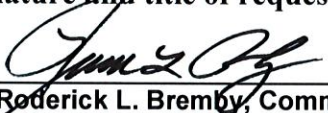
13. Proposed quality control review procedures:

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 Administration Manager
Daniel.Giacomi@ct.gov
(860) 424-5080

15. Signature and title of requesting official:



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

16. Date of request:

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

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