



June 15, 2020

Willie Taylor, Regional Director
USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Southeast Regional Office
6 Forsyth Street, NW, Suite 8 -T36
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Taylor,

The Georgia Food Stamp Program is submitting the enclosed request to waive the ABAWD Time Limits from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 for all 159 Georgia counties.

If you have any questions regarding this waiver, please contact Kimberlin Donald, SNAP Director at (404) 657-3608. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Tom C. Rawlings
Division Director

Enclosures: GA July 2020-June 2021 ABAWD Waiver Request

cc: Jon Anderson, Chief Deputy Division Director
Carla Fairley, Assistant Division Deputy Director
Wesley Merritt, Quality Operations Director
Kimberlin Donald, SNAP Director
Tatrina Young, SNAP E&T Coordinator

STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150036
2. **Type of request:** Initial
3. **Statutory citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
4. **Regulatory citation:** 7 CFR 273.24, January 17, 2001 rule (66 FR 4438)
5. **State:** Georgia
6. **Region:** Southeast
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 Georgia is requesting a waiver to exempt residents residing in the entire state from the SNAP time limit at 7 CFR 273.24 under the 2001 rule.
9. **Justification for request:**
Under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2), the State may support a claim of insufficient jobs by submitting evidence that the State qualifies for extended unemployment benefits within the past 12 months.

26 USC 3304 (Public Law 102-318) allows States to use a trigger for the extended benefits program, based on the State's not seasonally adjusted insured unemployment rate (IUR) for the most recent 13 weeks reaching at least: (1) 5 percent; and (2) 120 percent of such IUR for the corresponding 13-week periods ending in each of the two preceding calendar years; or (3) 6 percent regardless of the preceding calendar years.

The Department of Labor's Trigger Notice No. 2020 – 20¹ shows the State's 13-week insured unemployment rate (IUR) was: (1) 10.09 percent and (2) 1724 percent

¹ Extended Benefits Trigger Notices can be found at http://ows.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp.
Trigger notice 2020-20 was issued the week of May 31, 2020.

of the 13-week rate for the corresponding period in the two preceding years, making the State eligible for extended unemployment benefits.

Georgia's seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate for April 2020 is 12.2 percent, a 171 percent increase over March 2020², with some 1.8 million people in the state filing initial unemployment insurance claims in the eight weeks ending May 9, 2020.³ We believe that the exceptional circumstances brought on by the federal public health emergency warrant swift action by USDA.

10. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:

This waiver will provide consistency for households and State agency 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 July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

13. Proposed quality control review procedures:

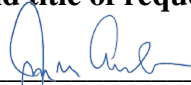
There are no special quality control procedures needed in conjunction with this waiver.

**14. State agency submitting waiver request and State contact person:
Georgia Division of Family and Children Services**

Kimberlin Donald, SNAP Director
Kimberlin.Donald@dhs.ga.gov
404-657-3608

Tatrina Young, SNAP E&T Coordinator
Tatrina.Young@dhs.ga.gov
404-463-0877

15. Signature and title of requesting official:



Title: **Chief Deputy Division Director**

Email for transmission of response: **Jon.Anderson@dhs.ga.gov**

16. Date of request: 6/11/20

² See Table 2 of State Employment and Unemployment (Monthly) News Release, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Friday, May 22, 2020, https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/laus_05222020.htm.

³ State-level weekly unemployment insurance claims data are from the U.S. Department of Labor at <https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims.asp>.

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

Jon Anderson
Chief Deputy Division Director
Georgia Division of Family & Children Services
Jon.Anderson@dhs.ga.gov
404-596-9562

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

TRIGGER NOTICE NO. 2020 - 20
STATE EXTENDED BENEFIT (EB) INDICATORS UNDER P.L. 112-240
Effective May 31, 2020

			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	5.44	697	6.2	188	155	13	B 05-31-2020
#		Alaska	9.97	340	7.9	130	120	13	B 05-03-2020
	&	Arizona	4.11	501	7.7	160	164		E 06-11-2011
#	&	Arkansas	5.46	580	6.2	177	168	13	B 05-31-2020
#	&	California	9.81	460	8.2	195	191	13	B 05-10-2020
#	&	Colorado	5.05	627	6.3	210	210	13	B 05-31-2020
#		Connecticut	11.07	469	4.9	132	111	13	B 04-26-2020
#	*	& Delaware	6.40	540	7.7	214	193	13	B 05-24-2020
#		& District of Col	6.40	494	7.4	130	128	13	B 05-24-2020
	*	& Florida	4.90	1139	6.5	197	171		E 05-12-2012
#	*	& Georgia	10.09	1724	6.5	176	159	13	B 05-10-2020
#		& Hawaii	9.03	828	8.9	318	387	13	B 05-17-2020
#		& Idaho	5.70	567	5.6	193	187	13	B 05-24-2020
#		& Illinois	7.24	380	7.9	184	180	13	B 05-17-2020
		& Indiana	4.74	831	7.6	217	224		E 04-21-2012
#	*	& Iowa	7.22	508	5.4	200	200	13	B 05/17/2020
		Kansas	4.83	690	5.7	178	168		E 04-07-2012
#	*	& Kentucky	7.67	636	8.3	198	193	13	B 05-17-2020
#		& Louisiana	9.31	1176	8.6	191	176	13	B 05-10-2020
#		& Maine	8.76	720	5.5	177	172	13	B 05-10-2020
#		& Maryland	5.49	465	5.4	146	132	13	B 05-31-2020
#		& Massachusetts	9.70	479	6.6	220	189	13	B 05-03-2020
#	*	& Michigan	13.09	899	9.9	230	230	13	B 04-26-2020
#		Minnesota	9.41	545	4.7	147	157	13	B-05-03-2020
#		& Mississippi	7.63	1138	8.5	160	173	13	B 05-17-2020
#		& Missouri	5.39	653	5.6	175	170	13	B 05-31-2020
#		& Montana	8.59	421	6.1	174	165	13	B 05-03-2020
		& Nebraska	4.38	818	5.1	165	176		E 01-24-1981
#		& Nevada	12.84	885	12.4	302	270	13	B 05-03-2020
#	*	New Hampshire	9.85	1527	6.9	276	265	13	B 05-10-2020
#		New Jersey	9.58	399	7.5	214	170	13	B 05-03-2020
#		& New Mexico	7.16	596	7.4	148	148	13	B 05-17-2020
#		New York	10.68	684	7.4	185	168	13	B 05-03-2020
#		North Carolina	7.28	1600	6.6	161	161	13	B 05-17-2020
#	*	& North Dakota	5.20	450	4.3	187	159	13	B 05-31-2020
#		& Ohio	8.46	776	8.9	217	198	13	B 05-10-2020
#		& Oklahoma	5.34	606	6.5	203	176	13	B 05-31-2020

#		Oregon	8.78	581	7.0	171	171	13	B 05-10-2020
#	&	Pennsylvania	10.62	533	8.5	207	193	13	B 05-03-2020
#	&	Puerto Rico	10.30	498	8.2	228	195	13	B 05-03-2020
#		Rhode Island	12.15	592	5.9	179	164	13	B 04-26-2020
#	&	South Carolina	6.42	904	5.5	172	177	13	B 05-24-2020
	*	& South Dakota	3.21	583	7.0	206	194		E 01-24-1981
#	&	Tennessee	5.63	1042	7.0	200	175	13	B 05-31-2020
#	&	Texas	5.26	537	5.3	189	171	13	B 05-31-2020
	*	& Utah	3.74	570	7.1	309	263		E 06-25-1983
#		Vermont	11.42	753	5.4	186	169	13	B 05-03-2020
	&	Virgin Islands	4.31	125	4.3	105	22		E 06-23-2018
#	&	Virginia	5.58	962	8.1	180	180	13	B 05-31-2020
#@	*	Washington	12.01	745	8.6	179	159	20 will	B 06-07-2020
#	&	West Virginia	9.45	570	6.9	216	230	13	B 05-03-2020
#	&	Wisconsin	6.97	564	5.6	160	144	13	B 05-17-2020
	*	& Wyoming	3.94	325	10.0	217	217		E 06-13-1987

Total Number 'ON': 44

44

1

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

& - State does not have TUR option in law.

- State "ON" by 13-week IUR.

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

USDOL/ETA/OUI/DFAS

5/29/2020

IUR reflects 13-week period ending May 16, 2020.

TUR reflects avg. seasonally adjusted TUR for 3-month period ending April, 2020.

1/TUR reflects avg. seasonally adjusted TUR for 3-month period ending February, 2020.