

STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150036
2. **Type of request:** Modification 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:** Georgia
6. **Region:** SERO
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 to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in 114 counties 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 Georgia seeks a waiver for a regional group of 114 contiguous counties based on the region's aggregate average unemployment rate for the 24-month period of January 2017 through December 2018. The national average unemployment rate for this period was 4.1 percent; 20 percent above this was 4.9 percent. The region's aggregate average unemployment rate for this period was 4.9 percent.

**Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data
January 2017 through December 2018**

Contiguous Counties	Unemployed Total	Labor Force Total
Appling County, GA	10,767	219,686
Atkinson County, GA	4,056	102,285
Bacon County, GA	4,992	121,322
Baker County, GA	1,664	29,457
Baldwin County, GA	22,733	418,589
Ben Hill County, GA	8,937	131,707
Berrien County, GA	8,235	178,407
Bibb County, GA	81,475	1,665,180
Bleckley County, GA	6,861	110,899
Brantley County, GA	8,912	175,855
Brooks County, GA	7,103	169,054
Bulloch County, GA	40,806	890,068
Burke County, GA	14,647	224,415
Butts County, GA	11,276	256,351
Calhoun County, GA	2,562	54,051
Camden County, GA	23,036	502,005
Candler County, GA	4,749	127,035
Carroll County, GA	59,464	1,323,314
Charlton County, GA	5,381	115,976
Chattahoochee County, GA	2,939	47,701
Chattooga County, GA	11,071	252,521
Clay County, GA	1,716	20,689
Clayton County, GA	174,099	3,259,662
Clinch County, GA	3,323	66,494
Coffee County, GA	21,319	445,935
Crawford County, GA	6,200	137,199
Crisp County, GA	11,281	225,601
Decatur County, GA	14,159	278,509
Dodge County, GA	9,773	171,693
Dooly County, GA	5,923	122,934
Dougherty County, GA	51,507	927,215
Douglas County, GA	77,976	1,739,398
Early County, GA	5,431	109,099
Elbert County, GA	9,445	188,433
Emanuel County, GA	12,723	203,005
Evans County, GA	4,708	117,661

Fannin County, GA	11,562	266,273
Floyd County, GA	50,236	1,061,813
Franklin County, GA	10,308	240,861
Fulton County, GA	582,951	13,247,944
Gilmer County, GA	13,287	288,016
GlascocK County, GA	1,420	31,139
Gordon County, GA	27,286	655,970
Greene County, GA	7,753	165,882
Habersham County, GA	19,049	464,281
Hancock County, GA	3,924	60,097
Haralson County, GA	12,836	298,711
Hart County, GA	11,014	275,167
Heard County, GA	5,488	124,509
Henry County, GA	121,500	2,715,184
Irwin County, GA	4,974	79,439
Jeff Davis County, GA	7,958	146,473
Jefferson County, GA	9,267	161,922
Jenkins County, GA	4,615	76,442
Johnson County, GA	4,434	98,960
Lamar County, GA	9,798	193,975
Lanier County, GA	4,357	92,279
Laurens County, GA	24,761	465,634
Liberty County, GA	28,934	614,480
Lincoln County, GA	4,367	86,170
Long County, GA	8,409	192,044
Macon County, GA	7,436	113,363
Marion County, GA	4,538	82,316
McDuffie County, GA	12,599	214,405
McIntosh County, GA	6,661	147,932
Meriwether County, GA	11,599	213,725
Miller County, GA	2,732	67,607
Mitchell County, GA	11,745	202,852
Monroe County, GA	12,710	313,807
Montgomery County, GA	5,551	90,746
Morgan County, GA	8,674	216,678
Murray County, GA	21,798	381,618
Muscogee County, GA	104,151	1,900,328
Newton County, GA	60,060	1,236,096
Oglethorpe County, GA	6,748	170,140
Peach County, GA	15,482	284,046

Polk County, GA	20,814	444,056
Pulaski County, GA	4,678	98,726
Putnam County, GA	10,526	196,751
Quitman County, GA	1,136	19,955
Rabun County, GA	7,454	167,985
Randolph County, GA	3,686	60,040
Richmond County, GA	114,537	2,071,130
Rockdale County, GA	51,608	1,071,393
Schley County, GA	2,664	52,853
Screven County, GA	7,380	127,185
Seminole County, GA	4,306	73,778
Spalding County, GA	35,725	682,526
Stephens County, GA	12,805	263,938
Stewart County, GA	2,943	55,598
Sumter County, GA	19,505	308,183
Talbot County, GA	3,756	67,541
Taliaferro County, GA	814	13,918
Tattnall County, GA	10,527	231,439
Taylor County, GA	5,098	67,229
Telfair County, GA	8,025	109,903
Terrell County, GA	5,500	88,063
Thomas County, GA	21,456	409,643
Toombs County, GA	17,510	285,128
Towns County, GA	5,498	91,796
Treutlen County, GA	4,065	65,246
Turner County, GA	4,129	77,527
Twiggs County, GA	4,729	70,709
Upson County, GA	13,351	271,831
Warren County, GA	3,531	65,648
Washington County, GA	9,458	174,288
Wayne County, GA	14,060	273,033
Webster County, GA	1,637	23,927
Wheeler County, GA	3,328	40,896
Whitfield County, GA	54,901	1,082,266
Wilcox County, GA	3,595	65,335
Wilkes County, GA	4,703	92,476
Wilkinson County, GA	4,591	91,695
Worth County, GA	10,193	221,382
Combined Area Total	2,548,443	52,543,745

Combined Area Unemployment Rate	4.9%
20% Above National Average Threshold	4.9%

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. 21 Counties will become subject to the ABAWD Time-Limits, which include Bartow County, Bryan County, Chatham County, Colquitt County, Cook County, Dade County, DeKalb County, Echols County, Effingham County, Glynn County, Grady County, Houston County, Lee County, Lowndes County, Pierce County, Pike County, Tift County, Troup County, Walker County, Walton County and Ware County. This will increase the amount of counties subject to the time limits for ABAWDs from 24 to 45 counties. The 24 Counties subject to the ABAWD Time Limits are as follows: Banks County, Barrow County, Catoosa County, Cherokee County, Clarke County, Cobb County, Columbia County, Coweta County, Dawson County, Fayette County, Forsyth County, Gwinnett County, Hall County, Harris County, Jackson County, Jasper County, Jones County, Lumpkin County, Madison County, Oconee County, Paulding County, Pickens County, Union County and White County.

11. Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affection portion (if applicable):

The caseload for these areas, as of **DATE**, represent **XX%** 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 November 1, 2019 through October 31, 2020.

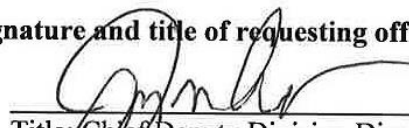
13. Proposed quality control review procedures:

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 & Children Services
Kimberlin Donald

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: 10/09/2019

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

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404-657-3608

Tatrina Young
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404-463-0877

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