

STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150013
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:** Illinois
6. **Region:** MWRO
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 Illinois is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in 100 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 Illinois seeks a waiver for a region of 100 contiguous counties based on the region's aggregate average unemployment rate for the 24-month period of May 2017 through April 2019. The national average unemployment rate for this period was 4.0 percent; 20 percent above this was 4.8 percent. The region's aggregate average unemployment rate for this period was 4.8 percent.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data May 2017 through April 2019		
Contiguous Counties	Unemployed Total	Labor Force Total
Adams County, IL	30,734	785,365
Alexander County, IL	4,089	51,470
Bond County, IL	8,422	190,191
Boone County, IL	36,513	632,599
Brown County, IL	1,923	69,262
Bureau County, IL	21,113	417,693
Calhoun County, IL	3,022	56,112
Carroll County, IL	8,249	180,706
Cass County, IL	6,794	147,823
Champaign County, IL	111,779	2,532,585
Christian County, IL	18,929	355,277
Clark County, IL	9,599	186,829
Clay County, IL	8,396	158,666
Clinton County, IL	17,529	488,448
Coles County, IL	27,926	582,052
Crawford County, IL	11,015	210,663
Cumberland County, IL	5,909	146,226
De Witt County, IL	9,117	182,233
DeKalb County, IL	59,284	1,325,811
Douglas County, IL	10,118	244,440
Edgar County, IL	10,534	221,852
Edwards County, IL	3,080	66,831
Effingham County, IL	17,211	457,405
Fayette County, IL	12,545	234,584
Ford County, IL	7,424	152,141
Franklin County, IL	25,351	405,824
Fulton County, IL	23,279	366,340
Gallatin County, IL	3,350	58,490
Greene County, IL	7,184	144,307
Grundy County, IL	30,461	608,777
Hamilton County, IL	4,765	108,277
Hancock County, IL	10,075	203,193
Hardin County, IL	2,519	32,274
Henderson County, IL	4,564	87,769
Henry County, IL	30,848	601,347
Iroquois County, IL	15,702	346,982

Jackson County, IL	30,721	674,922
Jasper County, IL	5,386	109,655
Jefferson County, IL	22,692	422,758
Jersey County, IL	12,960	263,892
Jo Daviess County, IL	11,950	263,841
Johnson County, IL	7,592	98,414
Kane County, IL	324,818	6,541,497
Kankakee County, IL	73,592	1,337,859
Kendall County, IL	61,452	1,629,384
Knox County, IL	28,601	533,134
Lake County, IL	415,194	9,061,677
LaSalle County, IL	78,467	1,347,490
Lawrence County, IL	8,548	143,600
Lee County, IL	18,984	427,469
Livingston County, IL	17,946	398,365
Logan County, IL	14,545	307,952
Macon County, IL	67,453	1,193,408
Macoupin County, IL	27,377	553,034
Madison County, IL	148,653	3,226,342
Marion County, IL	21,413	425,399
Marshall County, IL	6,942	131,901
Mason County, IL	9,289	152,408
Massac County, IL	9,348	138,105
McDonough County, IL	16,422	320,382
McHenry County, IL	150,099	3,995,027
McLean County, IL	89,156	2,113,512
Menard County, IL	6,660	160,339
Mercer County, IL	10,366	194,244
Monroe County, IL	15,508	445,507
Montgomery County, IL	16,880	285,190
Morgan County, IL	17,569	391,655
Moultrie County, IL	6,893	179,073
Ogle County, IL	31,017	606,082
Peoria County, IL	118,241	2,090,208
Perry County, IL	12,028	201,978
Piatt County, IL	8,602	202,098
Pike County, IL	8,292	174,097
Pope County, IL	2,615	42,170
Pulaski County, IL	4,049	50,194
Putnam County, IL	3,856	72,785

Randolph County, IL	15,079	340,087
Richland County, IL	8,491	179,170
Rock Island County, IL	90,544	1,720,034
Saline County, IL	15,300	235,954
Sangamon County, IL	109,480	2,512,436
Schuyler County, IL	3,596	79,833
Scott County, IL	3,194	59,298
Shelby County, IL	11,131	255,433
St. Clair County, IL	155,421	3,047,969
Stark County, IL	3,921	61,951
Stephenson County, IL	24,726	523,904
Tazewell County, IL	78,707	1,564,734
Union County, IL	11,551	177,584
Vermilion County, IL	50,465	808,208
Wabash County, IL	6,274	136,638
Warren County, IL	8,929	208,139
Washington County, IL	6,936	231,476
Wayne County, IL	9,526	166,507
White County, IL	7,168	160,119
Whiteside County, IL	32,079	680,156
Will County, IL	373,053	8,606,025
Williamson County, IL	39,291	764,708
Winnebago County, IL	194,423	3,373,709
Woodford County, IL	19,184	458,438
Combined Area Total	3,839,997	80,300,401
Combined Area Unemployment Rate	4.8%	
20% Above National Average Threshold	4.8%	

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 **September 2019**, represent **49.7%** 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:

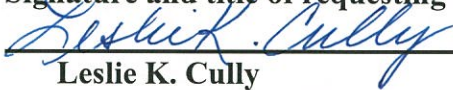
The State is requesting a one-year waiver, from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

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:

15. Signature and title of requesting official:



Leslie K. Cully

Title: Illinois SNAP Director

Leslie.k.cully@illinois.gov

16. Date of request: 10/31/2019

17. State agency staff contact (name/email/telephone): Terri Vaniter
terri.vaniter@illinois.gov 217/782-1239

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