

STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150032
2. **Type of request:** Amendment
3. **Statutory citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
4. **Regulatory citation:** 7 CFR 273.24 as amended by the Food and Nutrition Service's Final Rule "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents," published on December 5, 2019 (84 FR 66782).
5. **State:** Michigan
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 Michigan is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in 21 Labor Market Areas (LMAs) from SNAP time limits at 7 CFR 273.24 as amended by the Food and Nutrition Service's Final Rule (84 FR 66782).
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, but in no case may the 24-month average unemployment rate of the requested area be less than 6 percent. 7 CFR 273.24(f)(4) provides that a Labor Market Area (LMA), the intrastate part of an interstate LMA, a reservation area, or a U.S. Territory are considered to be areas for the purposes of waivers.

The State of Michigan seeks a waiver for 1 Labor Market Area based on having an average unemployment rate at least 6 percent and at least 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of May 2017 through April 2019. The national average unemployment rate for this 24-month period was 4.0 percent; 20 percent above this was 4.8 percent.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data May 2017 through April 2019			
Labor Market Areas	Unemployed Total	Labor Force Total	Unemploy ment Rate
Emmet County, MI	25,154	422,496	6.0

The State of Michigan seeks a waiver for 20 Labor Market Areas based on each Labor Market Area having an average unemployment rate at least 6 percent and at least 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of July 2017 through June 2019. The national average unemployment rate for this 24-month period was 3.9 percent; 20 percent above this was 4.7 percent.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data July 2017 through June 2019			
Labor Market Areas	Unemployed Total	Labor Force Total	Unemploy ment Rate
Alcona County, MI	6,189	92,079	6.7
Alger County, MI	6,171	78,328	7.9
Arenac County, MI	10,368	144,071	7.2
Baraga County, MI	4,923	76,798	6.4
Cheboygan County, MI	23,527	257,238	9.1
Clare County, MI	17,861	285,328	6.3
Crawford County, MI	8,046	132,408	6.1
Iosco County, MI	15,795	241,972	6.5
Lake County, MI	6,316	88,542	7.1
Luce County, MI	3,639	58,179	6.3
Mackinac County, MI	11,764	123,155	9.6
Montmorency County, MI	6,470	73,281	8.8
Oceana County, MI	18,635	300,882	6.2
Ogemaw County, MI	13,821	196,020	7.1
Ontonagon County, MI	3,961	50,920	7.8
Oscoda County, MI	4,812	71,776	6.7
Presque Isle County, MI	9,844	123,562	8.0
Roscommon County, MI	14,899	187,754	7.9
Sault Ste. Marie, MI Micropolitan Statistical Area	26,340	392,471	6.7

Schoolcraft County, MI	5,903	81,501	7.2
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10. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:

This waiver will provide consistency for households and State agency operations in areas where there are not a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for able-bodied adults without dependents.

11. Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affected 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:

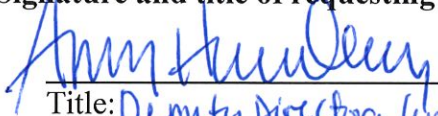
The State is requesting a one-year waiver, from February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021

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:

15. Signature and title of requesting official:


 Title: Deputy Director, Economic Stability Administration
 Email for transmission of response: Hundleya@michigan.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):