



Food and Nutrition
Service

July 20, 2022

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria VA,
22314

Nicole Tousignant
Economic Benefits Director
Economic Services Division
Department for Children and Families
280 State Drive
Waterbury, Vermont 05671

**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – Vermont Request to Waive
Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents Time Limit – Initial – Approval**

Dear Director Tousignant:

This is in response to the Vermont agency's June 24, 2022, request to waive the SNAP time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs). The attached waiver response includes the approved areas, the supporting evidence used, and the conditions of approval. This approval replaces Vermont's current Statewide ABAWD waiver approved for October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022.

FNS also reminds the State agency that it must measure the 3-year period and track ABAWDs on a continuous basis, even in areas under a waiver. The State must continue tracking so that the State will be ready to transition off the waiver when it expires and reintroduce the time limit. Please contact your Regional Office representative with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline O'Connor
Acting Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Enclosure

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Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) Waiver Response

1. **Request Type:** Initial
2. **Statutory Citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
3. **Regulatory Citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
4. **State:** Vermont
5. **Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Region:** Northeast
6. **Requirement:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and regulations at 7 CFR 273.24 provide that no individual 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) and 7 CFR 273.24 also provide 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.
7. **Requested Area(s) and Support:** The State agency requested to replace an approved Statewide waiver of the ABAWD time limit that expires on September 30, 2022 (WIMS Case 00001850), with a Statewide waiver of the ABAWD time limit, effective August 1, 2022, through November 30, 2022. The State agency supported its request based upon the State's eligibility for extended unemployment benefits, a criterion for statewide waiver approval provided by SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24. According to the Department of Labor Trigger Notice No. 2020-47, effective December 6, 2020, the State qualified for extended unemployment benefits.¹
8. **FNS Action and Justification:** FNS is approving the State agency's request to waive the ABAWD time limit. FNS will terminate Vermont's existing waiver of the ABAWD time limit (WIMS Case 00001850) as of July 31, 2022. FNS is approving this waiver for implementation effective August 1, 2022, through November 30, 2022. The State agency's request meets the requirements for approval provided at 7 CFR 273.24(f) and relevant FNS guidance.
9. **Authority:** The waiver is approved pursuant to section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and 7 CFR 273.24(f).

¹ Extended Benefits Trigger Notices can be found at https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp. Trigger notice 2020-47 was issued the week of December 6, 2020.

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10. Implementation Date: August 1, 2022

11. Expiration Date: November 30, 2022

12. Information Required for Modification or New Waiver: To receive a modification or new initial waiver the State agency must provide FNS with a formal request supported by data or other information as described in 7 CFR 273.24(f). Any request based upon unemployment rates must include data spreadsheets and supporting documentation.

13. State Agency Contact Information:

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14. FNS Regional Office Contact Information:

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