

STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150041
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
5. **State:** Alaska
6. **Region:** WRO
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 Alaska is requesting a statewide waiver from SNAP time limits at 7 CFR 273.24.
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 the option of providing an additional alternative trigger for the extended benefits program, based on the State's seasonally adjusted total unemployment rate (TUR) for the most recent three months reaching at least: (1) 6.5 percent; and (2) 110 percent of such TUR for the corresponding three-month period ending in either or both of the two preceding calendar years.

The Department of Labor's Trigger Notice No. 2021-44¹ shows the State's 3-month average total unemployment rate (TUR) was: (1) 6.5 percent and (2) 120 percent of

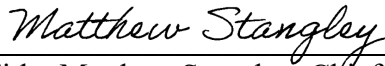
¹ Extended Benefits Trigger Notices can be found at https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/claims_arch.asp. Trigger notice 2021-44 was issued the week of November 14, 2021.

the 3-month average for the corresponding period in the second preceding year, making the State eligible for extended unemployment benefits.

- 10. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:** This waiver will provide consistency for state operations and benefit SNAP households.
- 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 November 1, 2022 through October 31, 2023.
- 13. Proposed quality control review procedures:** There are no quality control procedures involved.
- 14. State agency submitting waiver request and State contact person:**

Matthew Stangley
Chief of Policy & Program Development
Division of Public Assistance

- 15. Signature and title of requesting official:**



Title: Matthew Stangley, Chief of Policy and Program Development
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- 16. Date of request:** August 24, 2022

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

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