



United States
Department of
Agriculture

JUL 29 2013

Food and
Nutrition
Service

3101 Park
Center Drive

Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

Ms. Linda Patterson
CalFresh Branch Chief
Department of Social Services
744 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: SNAP - California Request to Waive Able-bodied Adults without Dependents Time Limits – Modification and Extension – Approval

Dear Ms. Patterson:

This is in response to the California Department of Social Services' request to extend and modify waiver #2030034 to exempt Able-bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) in the State of California from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) time limits at 7 CFR 273.24 for Fiscal Year 2014.

The California State agency has proposed to exempt ABAWDs statewide based on a recent 12-month average unemployment rate that exceeds 10 percent.

Based upon a review of the data provided, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is approving this waiver for a 1-year period, effective October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. Our detailed response is attached. If you have any questions, please contact Hope Rios at hope.rios@fns.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Weber", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Elizabeth Weber
Acting Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Attachment

CSM

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver Serial Number:** 2030034
2. **Type of Request:** Extension and Modification
3. **Primary regulation citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
4. **State:** California
5. **Region:** Western
6. **Regulatory Requirement:** Federal 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 three months during any three year period in which the individual was subject to, but did not comply with the SNAP work requirements. Regulations at 273.24(a) provide that fulfilling the work requirement means: working 20 hours or more per week, averaged monthly; participating in and complying with the requirements of a work program or a workfare program for at least 20 hours per week; or any combination of working and participating in a work program for a total of 20 hours per week.

Regulations at 7CFR 273.24(f) also provide that, upon the request of a State agency, the Secretary may waive the applicability of the above provision 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. **Description of proposed alternative procedures:**

The California State Agency proposes to extend and modify this waiver to exempt individuals statewide from ABAWD participation time limits, based upon a recent annual unemployment rate exceeding 10 percent:

State of California	12-month Totals: January - December 2012	
	<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	<i>Not seasonally adjusted</i>
Labor Force	221,944,130	221,938,580
Unemployment	23,205,676	23,214,401
12-month Unemployment Rate	10.5%	10.5%

8. **Action and reason for approval or denial:** Due to the State of California's unemployment rate exceeding 10 percent from January through December 2012, FNS is approving this waiver request. The data submitted by the State agency meets the requirements of approval pursuant to 7 CFR 273.24(f)(3) and relevant FNS guidance.
9. **Regulatory or legislative basis for action:** This waiver is approved pursuant to 7 CFR 273.24(f)(3)(i),(ii) and (iii).
10. **Conditions and reasons:** None.
11. **Information required for extension:** To receive an extension the State agency must provide data or other information as described in 273.24(f)(2) and (f)(3). If California wishes to receive an extension based on unemployment rates, they must provide FNS with a waiver request along all supporting documentation, including spreadsheets.
12. **Expiration date:** This waiver is effective beginning October 1, 2013 and will expire on September 30, 2014.
13. **Limitation, if any, on regional office approval of like requests:** This waiver is limited to the California Department of Social Services.
14. **Quality control procedures:** None.
15. **Date of national office action:** JUL 29 2013
16. **Date of State agency's request:** April 30, 2013
17. **Date of regional office transmittal of request:** July 2, 2013
18. **Implementation date (notify FNS if actual date differs):** October 1, 2013
19. **State agency contact:**
Linda Patterson
linda.patterson@dss.ca.gov
(916) 651-8047
20. **FNS regional contact:**
Hope Rios
hope.rios@fns.usda.gov
(415) 645-1932