



SEP 07 2017

Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

Bobby D. Cagle
Director, Division of Family and Children Services
Georgia Department of Human Services
Two Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 19.490
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: SNAP – Georgia Request to Waive Able-Bodied Adults without
Dependents Time Limit – Approval

Dear Mr. Cagle:

This is in response to the Georgia State agency's request to waive the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents in 66 counties from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018.

The State agency's request meets the requirements for approval provided at 7 CFR 273.24(f) and relevant Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) guidance. Therefore, FNS is approving Georgia to waive the time limit in the 66 counties for the requested 12-month period. The approval amends and extends waiver number 2150036. The attached waiver response includes the approved areas, the supporting evidence used, and the conditions of approval. If you have any questions please contact Yolaunda Daniel at Yolaunda.Daniel@fns.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Sasha Gersten-Paal
Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Attachment

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver serial number:** 2150036
2. **Type of request:** Extension and amendment
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:** Georgia
6. **Region:** Southeast
7. **Requirement:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, and regulations at 7 CFR 273.24 provide 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) 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.
8. **Proposed alternative procedures:** The Georgia State agency has requested to waive the ABAWD time limit in 66 counties from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018. The State agency has supported its request based upon the combined area having an aggregate average unemployment rate 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of February 2015 through January 2017. During this time period the national average unemployment rate was 5.0 percent; 20 percent above that rate is 6.0 percent. As detailed in the following table, the aggregate unemployment rate for the combined 66 county area was 6.0 percent during the selected time period.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data February 2015 through January 2017*		
County	Unemployed	Labor Force
1. Appling	14,670	215,980
2. Atkinson	5,188	95,064
3. Bacon	6,447	117,879
4. Baker	2,080	27,775
5. Ben Hill	11,428	133,765
6. Berrien	11,301	170,821
7. Bleckley	8,163	105,431
8. Brantley	11,882	169,472
9. Bryan	19,936	393,605
10. Bulloch	49,567	847,986
11. Calhoun	3,126	52,085
12. Camden	28,718	510,161
13. Charlton	6,922	114,733
14. Chatham	177,123	3,240,445
15. Clay	2,320	20,952
16. Clayton	216,861	3,080,656
17. Clinch	4,388	66,999
18. Coffee	26,556	426,428
19. Crawford	8,247	135,362
20. Crisp	14,291	223,962
21. Decatur	18,530	276,561
22. DeKalb	515,143	9,112,802
23. Dodge	13,090	166,945
24. Dooly	7,674	117,855
25. Douglas	97,889	1,667,639
26. Early	7,315	105,521
27. Effingham	32,837	662,331
28. Evans	5,974	114,240
29. Fulton	707,732	12,577,120
30. Glynn	51,903	922,740
31. Henry	148,353	2,565,729
32. Irwin	6,110	76,341
33. Jeff Davis	9,768	150,937
34. Lamar	13,111	187,043
35. Lanier	5,590	91,430
36. Laurens	32,066	451,507
37. Lee	17,114	341,823
38. Liberty	36,230	603,226
39. Long	9,707	171,912
40. Macon	9,699	111,675
41. Marion	6,520	82,577

42. McIntosh	8,690	142,942
43. Miller	3,533	65,401
44. Peach	20,207	274,518
45. Pierce	11,376	197,484
46. Pulaski	6,066	97,860
47. Quitman	1,378	19,373
48. Randolph	5,144	58,818
49. Rockdale	62,722	1,031,807
50. Schley	3,289	50,463
51. Seminole	5,953	74,647
52. Spalding	48,550	660,218
53. Stewart	3,467	51,108
54. Sumter	24,461	306,429
55. Taylor	6,165	76,620
56. Telfair	9,927	115,031
57. Terrell	6,148	87,806
58. Turner	5,187	77,239
59. Twiggs	6,336	71,772
60. Upson	18,181	267,607
61. Ware	21,025	355,061
62. Wayne	19,138	276,359
63. Webster	2,133	23,193
64. Wheeler	4,020	40,954
65. Wilcox	4,947	67,087
66. Wilkinson	5,904	87,411
Total for Region	2,695,516	45,284,723
Combined Region Unemployment Rate	6.0%	

*Data extracted from www.bls.gov on August 31, 2017.

- 9. Action and reason for approval or denial:** The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is approving the Georgia State agency's request to waive the ABAWD time limit in the 66 counties because the areas meet the requirements for approval provided at 7 CFR 273.24(f) and relevant FNS guidance.
- 10. Regulatory or legislative basis for action:** The waiver is approved pursuant to section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended and 7 CFR 273.24(f).
- 11. Information required for an extension:** To receive an amendment or extension 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.
- 12. Implementation date and expiration date:** The waiver is effective January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018.

14. Limitation, if any, on regional office approval of like requests: The waiver is limited to the Georgia State agency.

15. Date of national office action: **SEP 07 2017**

16. Date of State agency's request: July 13, 2017

17. Date of regional office transmittal of request: July 13, 2017

18. State agency contact:

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19. FNS regional contacts:

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