



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

OCT 06 2017

Diane Grigsby Jackson
SNAP Director
Illinois Department of Human Services
100 South Grand Avenue, East
Springfield, Illinois 62762

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

Dear Ms. Jackson:

This is in response to the Illinois State agency's request to waive the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents in 101 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 Illinois to waive the time limit in the 101 counties for the requested 12-month period. The approval amends and extends waiver number 2150013. The attached waiver response includes the approved areas, the supporting evidence used, and the conditions of approval. If you have any questions please contact April Moss at April.Moss@fns.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Sasha Gersten-Paal
Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Attachment

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver serial number:** 2150013
2. **Type of request:** Amendment and extension
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:** Illinois
6. **Region:** Midwest
7. **Requirement:** 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. **Proposed alternative procedures:** The Illinois State agency is requesting to waive the ABAWD time limit in 101 counties, which includes all counties except DuPage County, from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The State agency has supported its request based upon the 101 counties having an aggregate average unemployment rate 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of April 2015 through March 2017. During this time period the national average unemployment rate was 4.95 percent; 20 percent above that rate is 5.9 percent. As detailed in the following table, the combined 101 county area had an aggregate unemployment rate of 5.9 percent during the selected 24-month time period.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data April 2015 – March 2017*		
County	Unemployment	Labor Force
1. Adams County	37,680	778,247
2. Alexander County	4,990	55,132
3. Bond County	9,776	189,005
4. Boone County	43,482	634,989
5. Brown County	2,326	68,312
6. Bureau County	25,404	414,700
7. Calhoun County	3,612	56,691
8. Carroll County	10,462	189,329
9. Cass County	8,456	151,438
10. Champaign County	128,782	2,524,578
11. Christian County	23,606	369,415
12. Clark County	11,501	194,427
13. Clay County	10,943	160,376
14. Clinton County	21,533	487,696
15. Coles County	34,466	583,071
16. Cook County	3,818,316	63,730,941
17. Crawford County	13,472	221,864
18. Cumberland County	7,414	142,435
19. DeKalb County	71,947	1,316,651
20. De Witt County	10,659	189,056
21. Douglas County	11,678	245,134
22. Edgar County	13,965	230,707
23. Edwards County	4,088	71,100
24. Effingham County	21,087	445,978
25. Fayette County	15,291	231,253
26. Ford County	8,619	157,541
27. Franklin County	32,086	397,391
28. Fulton County	28,358	379,307
29. Gallatin County	4,329	60,087
30. Greene County	8,627	144,526
31. Grundy County	40,952	613,181
32. Hamilton County	6,064	102,564
33. Hancock County	13,522	211,509
34. Hardin County	3,193	34,560
35. Henderson County	5,489	89,583
36. Henry County	36,640	602,480
37. Iroquois County	19,834	355,054
38. Jackson County	37,309	688,090
39. Jasper County	6,957	110,437
40. Jefferson County	27,214	414,775
41. Jersey County	15,963	268,044

42. Jo Daviess County	14,724	272,946
43. Johnson County	8,558	99,821
44. Kane County	361,561	6,446,763
45. Kankakee County	86,152	1,318,612
46. Kendall County	80,787	1,597,328
47. Knox County	33,865	557,767
48. Lake County	468,488	8,906,211
49. LaSalle County	93,538	1,376,448
50. Lawrence County	10,813	147,881
51. Lee County	22,202	429,921
52. Livingston County	22,112	406,269
53. Logan County	16,647	313,361
54. McDonough County	20,617	335,859
55. McHenry County	208,264	3,994,066
56. McLean County	107,060	2,164,074
57. Macon County	81,015	1,212,287
58. Macoupin County	33,561	558,434
59. Madison County	188,060	3,226,354
60. Marion County	28,066	431,423
61. Marshall County	8,987	136,849
62. Mason County	11,150	156,108
63. Massac County	10,401	145,635
64. Menard County	7,578	163,435
65. Mercer County	12,230	196,963
66. Monroe County	18,010	438,612
67. Montgomery County	20,950	290,651
68. Morgan County	20,193	409,069
69. Moultrie County	7,984	177,734
70. Ogle County	37,328	621,834
71. Peoria County	146,898	2,154,564
72. Perry County	14,869	209,402
73. Piatt County	10,138	201,694
74. Pike County	9,315	181,806
75. Pope County	2,993	42,476
76. Pulaski County	4,445	50,229
77. Putnam County	4,261	74,155
78. Randolph County	17,833	347,484
79. Richland County	10,582	180,291
80. Rock Island County	108,735	1,732,775
81. St. Clair County	187,836	3,051,966
82. Saline County	19,813	241,822
83. Sangamon County	126,387	2,551,046
84. Schuyler County	4,681	81,195
85. Scott County	3,486	61,292

86. Shelby County	14,264	247,097
87. Stark County	4,671	66,612
88. Stephenson County	31,334	516,524
89. Tazewell County	100,954	1,602,247
90. Union County	13,468	179,129
91. Vermilion County	60,173	843,646
92. Wabash County	8,192	134,887
93. Warren County	10,768	205,702
94. Washington County	8,521	228,521
95. Wayne County	13,715	175,919
96. White County	10,259	164,686
97. Whiteside County	40,631	686,406
98. Will County	509,245	8,593,932
99. Williamson County	47,333	768,141
100. Winnebago County	240,603	3,415,742
101. Woodford County	24,682	470,037
Total	8,512,078	144,305,794
Combined Area Unemployment Rate	5.9%	

*Data extracted from Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment survey (<http://www.bls.gov>) on October 3, 2017.

9. Action and reason for approval or denial: The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is approving the Illinois State agency's request to waive the ABAWD time limit in the 101 county area because the jurisdictions 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.

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

14. Date of national office action: **OCT 06 2017**

15. Date of State agency's request: September 29, 2017

16. Date of regional office transmittal of request: October 2, 2016

17. State agency contact:

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18. FNS Regional Contact:

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