



United States Department of Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

NOV 17 2016

Leslie Cully

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program 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. Cully:

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 throughout the State from January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2017.

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 throughout the State for the requested 12-month period. The approval 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sasha Gersten-Paal".

Sasha Gersten-Paal

Chief

Certification Policy Branch

Program Development Division

Attachment

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver serial number:** 2150013
2. **Type of request:** 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 has requested to waive the ABAWD time limit throughout the State from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. The State agency has 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. The State has provided a copy of Department of Labor Trigger notice 2016-19, effective May 22, 2016, showing that Illinois qualified for extended unemployment benefits.
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 throughout the State 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 as supporting documentation.
- 12. Implementation date and expiration date:** The waiver is effective January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2017.
- 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:** **NOV 17 2016**
- 15. Date of State agency's request:** October 21, 2016
- 16. Date of regional office transmittal of request:** October 24, 2016
- 17. State agency contact:**
Leslie Cully
Leslie.Cully@illinois.gov
(217) 524-9156
- 18. FNS regional contact:**
April Moss
April.Moss@fns.usda.gov
(312) 353-1608