

WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver serial number:**
2070002
2. **Type of request:**
Modification and Extension
3. **Primary regulation citation:**
Section 6 (o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, P.L. 104-193
4. **Secondary regulation citation, if any:**
7 CFR 273.24 (f)(2)(ii)
5. **State:**
Missouri
6. **Region:**
Mountain Plains
7. **Regulatory requirements:**
Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), P.L. 104-193, provides that no individual shall be eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program as a member of any household if, during the preceding 36 month period, the individual received food stamp benefits for not less than 3 months (consecutive or otherwise), during which the individual did not work 20 hours or more per week, averaged monthly; did not participate in and comply with the requirement of a work program for 20 hours or more per week; or did not participate in and comply with requirements of a program under section 20 or a comparable program established by the State.

Section 6(o) of the Food Stamp Act, as amended by Section 824 of PRWORA, also provides 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 resides 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:**
Missouri is requesting a modification and extension of its existing waiver to exempt residents residing in the entire State from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24 due to having insufficient jobs based on the U.S. Department of Labor data that the State qualifies for extended unemployment benefits.

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 three-month periods ending in either or both of the two preceding calendar years.

The Department of Labor's State Extended Benefit (EB) Indicators Under P.L. 111-312 effective February 13, 2011¹ shows the State's 3-month average total unemployment rate (TUR) was: (1) 9.4 percent and (2) 130 percent of the 3-month average for the corresponding period in the second year, making the State eligible for extended unemployment benefits.

Missouri is one of 26 states that continues to be eligible for Tier Four Status extended unemployment benefits. The Tier Four Status began January 2, 2011.

9. Justification for request:

This request to exempt residents residing in the entire State from the work requirements of 7 CFR 273.24 due to having insufficient jobs is based on the State qualifying for extended unemployment benefits within the past 12 months.

10. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:
None

11. Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affected portion:

As of January 31, 2011, there are 433,219 Food Stamp households in Missouri. There are estimated 31,661 individuals who would be impacted by this waiver.

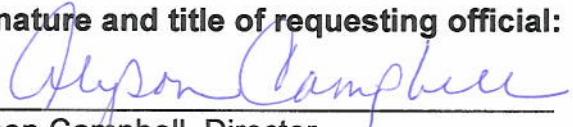
12. Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:

The State is requesting a one-year waiver from October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012.

13. Proposed quality control review procedures:

There is no special quality control procedures needed in conjunction with this waiver.

14. Signature and title of requesting official:


Alyson Campbell, Director

¹ State Extended Benefit (EB) Indicators Under P.L. 111-312 effective February 13, 2011 can be found at http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/trigger/2011/trig_021311.html.