



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

SEP 04 2014

Terry R. Smith
Director, Division of Family Assistance
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
129 Pleasant Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

RE: SNAP – New Hampshire Request to Waive Able-bodied Adults without
Dependents Time Limits - Extension - Approval

Dear Mr. Smith:

This is in response to the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' request for an extension of its waiver to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in certain areas of the State from Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) time limits at 7 CFR 273.24.

The New Hampshire State agency has requested to waive ABAWD time limits in the following towns: Drummer, Errol, Stark, Stratford and Wentworth Location. The supporting documentation provided by the State shows that these areas meet the requirements for waiver approval following regulations at 7 CFR 273.24, as they demonstrate an unemployment rate that exceeds 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of May 2012 through April 2014.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is approving this waiver extension request. This approval is effective from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015. A detailed waiver response is attached.

If you have any questions, please contact Alison Mickiewicz at Alison.Mickiewicz@fns.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Sasha Gersten-Paal
Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Attachment

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver Serial Number:** 2130035
2. **Type of Request:** Extension
3. **Primary regulation citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
4. **State:** New Hampshire
5. **Region:** Northeast
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 New Hampshire State agency is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in certain areas of the State from SNAP time limits at 7 CFR 273.24.
8. **Action and reason for approval or denial:** FNS is approving the New Hampshire State agency's request to waive ABAWD time limits as the areas included in the State's request meet the requirements for approval provided at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2)(ii).

Area	Unemployment Rate May 2012 – April 2014
Drummer Town	9.7%
Errol Town	9.4%
Wentworth Location	16.9%
Combined area of Stark town and Stratford town	9.0%
US National Average	7.4%
20% Above the National Average	8.9%

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). If New Hampshire wishes to receive an extension based on unemployment rates, it must provide FNS with a waiver request along with all supporting documentation, including spreadsheets.
12. **Expiration date:** This waiver extension is effective beginning October 1, 2014 and will expire on September 30, 2015.
13. **Limitation, if any, on regional office approval of like requests:** This waiver is limited to the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.
14. **Date of national office action:** SEP 04 2014
15. **Date of State agency's request:** July 14, 2014
16. **Date of regional office transmittal of request:** July 24, 2014
17. **Implementation date (notify FNS if actual date differs):** October 1, 2014
18. **State agency contact:**
Terry Smith
tsmith@dhhs.state.nh.us
19. **FNS regional contact:**
Alison Mickiewicz
Alison.Mickiewicz@fns.usda.gov