



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

3101 Park
Center Drive

Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

JUN 13 2007

2030065

SUBJECT: FSP -Ohio - ABAWD Waivers

TO: Tim English
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Midwest Regional Office

This is in response to your May 17, 2007, electronic memorandum forwarding an amendment from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to modify and to extend waiver 2030065. We are approving this request.

Please find attached our detailed response. Please contact Celeste Perkins if you have questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Harriet Kornegay". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Harriet" and last name "Kornegay" clearly distinguishable.

Harriet Kornegay
Assistant Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Attachment(s)

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver Serial Number:** 2030065
2. **Type of Request:** Extension and Modification
3. **Primary regulation citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
4. **Secondary regulation citation:** N/A
5. **State:** Ohio
6. **Region:** Midwest
7. **Regulatory Requirement:** 7 CFR 273.24 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 requirements of a work program for 20 hours or more per week; did not participate in and comply with requirements of a program under Section 20 or a comparable program established by the State; or received benefits because they were exempt from these requirements.

7 CFR 273.24(f) 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 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. **Description of proposed alternative procedures:**

The State is requesting a 1-year waiver of the regulatory requirements listed in paragraph 7 for the counties listed in the table below, based upon the inclusion of these counties in a region that has a combined aggregate average unemployment rate that is at least 20 percent above the national average during a recent 24-month period (January 2005 through December 2006). The State added eight counties: Champaign, Clinton, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Greene, Hardin, Lake, and Lorain which were not included in last's waiver for a total of 69 counties.

Regions & Counties	Average Unemployment Rate January 2005 – December 2006
Sub-Region of Central Economic Development Region (Fayette, Pickaway, Madison)	5.8%
Sub-Region of Southwest Central Economic Development Region (Champaign, Clark, Clinton, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby)	5.8%
Sub-Region of West Central Economic Development Region (Allen, Hardin, Putnam)	5.8%
Northwest Economic Development Region (Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Williams, Wood)	6.2%
North Central Economic Development Region (Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Seneca, Wyandot)	6.1%
Southern Economic Development Region (Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton)	7.0%
Sub-Region of Northern EDR (Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Geauga)	5.7%
Sub-Region of Northeast Central EDR (Stark)	6.1%
East Central Economic Development Region (Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Muskingum, Tuscarawas)	6.5%
Southeast Economic Development Region (Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry, Washington)	7.0%
Northeast Economic Development Region (Ashtabula, Mahoning, Trumbull)	8.0%

National Average January 2005-December 2006: 4.84%
20% above National Average: 5.8%

9. **Action and reason for approval or denial:** We are approving the waiver for the jurisdictions listed in paragraph 8 in accordance with the request submitted by the State. All of the data submitted by the State meets the requirements of approval pursuant to 7 CFR 273.24(f)(3) and additional FNS guidance.
10. **Regulatory or legislative basis for action:** This waiver is approved pursuant to 7 CFR 273.24(f)(3)(i), (ii), and (iii).
11. **Conditions and reasons:** None.
12. **Information required for extension:** To receive an extension the State agency must provide data or other information as described in 273.24(f)(2) and (f)(3). If Ohio wishes to receive an extension based on unemployment rates, they must provide us with all supporting documentation, including spreadsheets in digital form. Please show the formula for the National Average in future submissions.
13. **Expiration date:** This waiver is effective beginning July 1, 2007 and will expire on June 30, 2008.

14. **Limitation, if any, on regional office approval of like requests:** This waiver is limited to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.
15. **Quality control procedures:** None.
16. **Date of national office action:**
17. **Date of State agency's request:** May 17, 2007.
18. **Date of regional office transmittal of request:** May 17, 2007.
19. **Date of regional office transmittal of response to State agency:**
20. **Actual implementation date:**