



United States Department of Agriculture

Food and Nutrition
Service

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria VA,
22314

September 13, 2022

Heather Miles
SNAP Program Manager
Department of Human Services
500 Summer Street NE, E-15
Salem, OR 97301

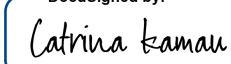
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – Oregon Request to Waive Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents Time Limit – Approval

Dear Program Manager Miles:

This is in response to the Oregon agency's July 6, 2022, request to waive the SNAP time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs). The attached waiver response includes the approved areas, the supporting evidence used, and the conditions of approval.

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) also reminds the State agency that it must measure the 3-year period and track ABAWDs on a continuous basis, even in areas under a waiver. The State must continue tracking so that the State will be ready to transition off the waiver when it expires and reintroduce the time limit. Please contact your Regional Office representative with any questions.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

284F789F20374D9...

Catrina Kamau
Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Enclosure

Enclosure

**ABLE-BODIED ADULTS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS (ABAWD)
WAIVER RESPONSE**

1. **Request Type:** Initial
2. **Statutory Citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
3. **Regulatory Citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
4. **State:** Oregon
5. **Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Region:** Western
6. **Requirement:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and 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 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) and 7 CFR 273.24 also provide 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.
7. **Requested Area(s) and Support:** The State agency requested to waive the ABAWD time limit in three (3) contiguous counties as part of one (1) combined area and five (5) reservation areas from January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023.

The State agency supported its request for the three counties based upon the combined area having an aggregate average unemployment rate 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of April 2020 through March 2022. During this period, the national average unemployment rate was 6.7 percent; 20 percent above that rate is 8.0 percent. The average unemployment rate for the combined area was 8.0 percent during the 24-month period.

The State agency supported its request for the reservation areas based up the areas having an aggregate average unemployment rate 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of April 2020 through March 2022. During this period, the national average unemployment rate was 6.7 percent; 20 percent above that rate is 8.0 percent. The average unemployment rate for the requested reservation areas was 8.0 percent or greater during the 24-month period.

FNS reminds the State agency that the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) continues to temporarily and partially suspend the ABAWD time limit nationwide. While the suspension remains in place, only ABAWDs who are offered a slot

in a work or workfare program, including a SNAP Employment & Training (E&T) program, are subject to the time limit.

Table 1: Combined Area 1 (Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data, April 2020 – March 2022)

Counties	Unemployment Rate
1. Clatsop County	7.8%
2. Lincoln County	8.9%
3. Tillamook County	6.7%
Combined Area Total	8.0%

Data extracted from <http://www.bls.gov> on August 20, 2022

Table 2: Reservation Areas (American Community Survey and Bureau of Labor Statistics Data April 2020 – March 2022)

Reservations	Unemployment Rate
1. Cow Creek Reservation	14.2%
2. Grand Ronde Reservation	21.9%
3. Klamath Reservation	36.1%
4. Siletz Reservation	21.6%
5. Warm Springs Reservation	15.5%

Data extracted from <http://www.bls.gov> and <https://data.census.gov> on August 20, 2022

8. **FNS Action and Justification:** FNS is approving the State agency's request to waive the ABAWD time limit. The State agency's request meets the requirements for approval provided at 7 CFR 273.24(f) and relevant FNS guidance.
9. **Authority:** The waiver is approved pursuant to section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and 7 CFR 273.24(f).
10. **Implementation Date:** January 1, 2023
11. **Expiration Date:** December 31, 2023
12. **Information Required to Submit a Modification, Extension, or New Waiver:** To receive a modification, extension, or submit a new waiver to replace the current waiver, 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.
13. **State Agency Contact Information:**
Name: Antonio Heras-De La Luz
Phone Number: (503) 586-6324
Email: antonio.heras-delaluz@dhsosha.state.or.us

Page 3

14. FNS Regional Office Contact Information:

Name: Pandora Lewis

Phone Number: (415) 293-3722

Email: pandora.lewis@usda.gov