

Subject: AK's waiver extensions for July and August - Approval
Date: Monday, July 27, 2020 3:55:00 PM

Hi Shawnda, Tama, and Matt,

AK's request to extend the following adjustments has been approved through July *and* August 2020:

- Extend certification periods without an interim report for the months of July and August 2020 (COV 174)
- Waive interviews for applications and recertifications for July and August 2020 (COV 084)

All terms and conditions outlined within the previously approved adjustment(s) apply. Please note, the evaluation report deadline remains 45 days after the end of the adjustments. Data only needs to be provided once per adjustment, regardless of the duration of the waiver.

As noted in our previous email, FNS will approve extensions beyond August on an extremely limited basis. In order to receive an extension beyond August, a State must have an emergency order that extends into the month in which the State is requesting the adjustment and provide data that demonstrates that the adjustment continues to be warranted given the current circumstances in the State. FNS expects requests include data on substantial increases in new applications in recent months (e.g. July and August for September adjustment), sizable increases in a backlog of case actions or applications, or a significant decrease in staffing capacity due to COVID-19, among other supporting information. States are expected to reasonably adjust to changing circumstances, including caseload growth, and FNS will not approve requests where the data is merely comparable with the State agency's data from non-COVID-19 circumstances in which FNS was working with the State under a corrective action plan. These requests should also include plans to return to a new normal in a short time frame. States must submit these requests by the 10th day the month before the adjustment would take effect with a response due back from FNS to the State by the 15th. Because approvals for adjustments beyond August will be extremely limited, States should make arrangements to ensure they are able to return to their new normal by September 1, 2020.

Thanks again for your patience. And most importantly - proactively engaged in the process. As always, reach out if you need anything.

Thank you –

Charles

Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:57 AM

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Subject: RE: AK's waiver extensions for July and August

Pandora,

I apologize for the delay. The State of Alaska would like to request an extension of the waivers to:

- Extend certification periods without an interim report for the months of July and August 2020
- Waive interviews for applications and recertifications for July and August 2020

Please let me know if you need any additional information above this written request. Thank you!

Matthew Stangley
Chief of Policy & Program Development
Division of Public Assistance
State of Alaska, Health & Social Services

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