

**STATE WAIVER REQUEST: Core Verification and Interview Adjustment**

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):**
2. **Type of request:** Initial
3. **Regulatory citation:** 7 C.F.R. 273.2(a)(2), 7 CFR 273.14(b)(3) and 273.2 (e)(2)
4. **State:** Florida
5. **Region:** Southeast Regional Office
6. **Regulatory requirements:**  
Regulations at 7 C.F.R. 273.2(a)(2), 7 C.F.R. 273.14(b)(3) and 7 C.F.R. 273.2(e)(2) requires that the application process include household interviews for eligibility determination before certification and as part of the recertification process.
7. **Proposed alternative procedures:**  
Florida intends to identify specific priority populations to complete the recertification interviews based on operational considerations, including risk of error. Florida will continue to reach out via telephone to the following specific recipient households in priority order to complete an interview for benefits:
  - ABAWDs – to discuss work requirements so the individual is fully aware what is expected once the public health emergency ends;
  - Households with individuals age 19-22 – may have an unreported college student;
  - Households with only individuals under age 22 – may be living in the household with a parent;
  - Households with income.

Florida is requesting this waiver to enable the department to meet current workload demands as we transition to new monthly applicant and recertification numbers while reengaging recipients and continuing to keep staff and SNAP participants safe through sustained physical distancing practices.

8. **Justification for request:**  
The Secretary of Health and Human Services emergency declaration continues to be in place and Florida has a State of Emergency Declaration through November 3, 2020. Florida is experiencing an increased number of recertifications compared to the previous year.

	SNAP Recertifications Due (AG Reviews Due)		SNAP Recertifications Due (AG Reviews Due)	Percent Increased from Previous Year
Oct-19	136,492	Oct-20	298,619	119%
Nov-19	159,132	Nov-20	282,191	77%
Dec-19	189,268	Dec-20	296,968	57%

Florida is requesting to waive 50% of the recertification interviews for October and waive 25% of the recertification interviews for November. If the declaration is extended, the department is requesting to waive 20% of the recertification interviews for December.

**9. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:**

Florida anticipates that implementation of this waiver will result in time savings for eligibility and administrative workers and ensure households receive benefits timely.

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

Florida is requesting to waive 50% of the recertification interviews for October and waive 25% of the recertification interviews for November. If the declaration is extended, the department is requesting to waive 20% of the recertification interviews for December.

**11. Proposed quality control review procedures:** N/A

**12. Date of request:** September 21, 2020

**13. Name, title, and email of requesting official:**

**Name:** Taylor Hatch

**Title:** Assistant Secretary of Economic Self Sufficiency

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ *Maggie Mickler for Taylor Hatch*

**14. State agency staff contact person:**

**Name:** Tonyaleah Veltkamp

**Title:** Chief of Policy

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**15. Regional Office contact person (to be completed by FNS regional office):**