



United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service

Western Region

Reply to
Attn of:

SNAP – 10-6-GU/Waiver #209006

September 18, 2012

Subject:

SNAP- Guam- ABAWD Waiver for FFY 2013

To:

Lizbeth Silberman, Director
Program Development Division
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Attached for your consideration is the September 10, 2012 request from Guam’s Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) seeking a waiver extension of the able bodied adults without dependent (ABAWD) requirement under 7 CFR 273.24 for Federal Fiscal Year 2013.

Since the U. S. Department of Labor Statistics (U.S. BLS) does not capture and generate employment data for the Territory of Guam, we rely on labor data generated from Guam’s Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. We reviewed labor data surveys for March 2011 and March 2012 (<http://dol.guam.gov>) and combined U. S. National Unemployment rate data from U.S. BLS (<http://www/bls.gov>) which support Guam’s request. Guam’s unemployment rates for 2011 and 2012 exceed 120% of the national unemployment rate.

US Unemployment Rate	2011	2012	Guam Unemployment Rate	2011	2012
	8.9	8.1		13.3	11.8
120%	10.7	9.7		N/A	N/A

We recommend a 1-year approval of the ABAWD waiver request. If you have any questions regarding the waiver request, please contact Jackie Henry at (415) 465-1908 or via email at jackie.henry@fns.usda.gov.

DENNIS STEWART
Regional Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Western Region

Attachment

cc: Angela Kline, Chief, Certification Policy Branch SNAP
Maribelle Balbes, Section Chief, POQCS II, SNAP-WRO

Jackie Henry, Program Specialist, SNAP-WRO