



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):** 2150022

2. **Type of request:** Amendment

3. **Statutory citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended

4. **Regulatory citation:** 7 CFR 273.24

5. **State:** Oregon

6. **Region:** WRO

7. **Regulatory requirements:**

Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, provides that no able-bodied adult without dependents (ABAWD) 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) also provides 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.

8. **Description of alternative procedures:**

The State of Oregon is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in 31 counties and 7 Native American reservation lands from SNAP time limits at 7 CFR 273.24.

9. **Justification for request:**

Under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2), areas may support a claim of insufficient jobs by submitting evidence that an area has an average unemployment rate for a 24-month time period that exceeds the national average for the same 24-month period by 20 percent. 7 CFR 273.24(f)(6) provides that States may define areas to be waived.

The State of Oregon seeks a waiver for a region of 31 counties based on the region's aggregate average unemployment rate for the 24-month period of April 2017 – March 2019. The national average unemployment rate for this period was 4.0 percent; 20 percent above this is 4.8 percent. The region's aggregate average unemployment rate for this period was 4.8 percent.

	Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data April 2017 – March 2019		
	Counties	Unemployed Total	Labor Force Total
1	Baker County	9,123	167,951
2	Clatsop County	19,226	463,972
3	Columbia County	29,761	585,449
4	Coos County	34,777	635,553
5	Crook County	13,924	227,003
6	Curry County	13,141	214,794
7	Deschutes County	97,353	2,280,510
8	Douglas County	60,165	1,112,431
9	Gilliam County	850	20,441
10	Grant County	5,485	74,933
11	Harney County	5,198	82,047
12	Hood River County	12,058	348,858
13	Jackson County	119,894	2,508,069
14	Jefferson County	13,650	244,620
15	Josephine County	47,167	858,097
16	Klamath County	45,060	709,683
17	Lake County	4,942	84,368
18	Lane County	195,837	4,364,316
19	Lincoln County	24,536	507,867
20	Linn County	66,546	1,401,467
21	Malheur County	13,996	300,734
22	Morrow County	6,071	137,930
23	Polk County	41,679	951,626
24	Sherman County	921	21,577
25	Tillamook County	12,414	283,850
26	Umatilla County	44,405	885,768
27	Union County	15,460	287,104
28	Wallowa County	4,851	79,925
29	Wasco County	14,097	326,357
30	Wheeler County	650	17,380
31	Yamhill County	48,983	1,306,674
	Combined Area Total	1,022,220	21,491,354
	Combined Area Unemployment Rate	4.8%	
	20% Above National Average Threshold	4.8%	

The State requests to waive the following 7 Native American reservation lands based on having average unemployment rates exceeding the national average for a recent 24-month period. The reservation land unemployment rates were calculated by applying 2017 American Community Survey¹ share ratios to county-level Bureau of Labor Statistics data from April 2017 – March 2019. The following table summarizes the calculations:

American Community Survey and Bureau of Labor Statistics Data April 2017 through March 2019			
Reservation	Unemployed	Labor Force	Unemployment Rate
Harney County (part); Oregon (part); Burns Paiute Indian Colony and Off-Reservation Trust Land, OR	168	1,315	12.8%
Total Burns Paiute Indian Reservation	168	1,315	12.8%
Coos County (part); Oregon (part); Coquille Reservation Lands, OR	185	3,851	4.8%
Total Coquille Reservation Lands	185	3,851	4.8%
Polk County (part); Oregon (part); Grand Ronde Community and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	357	4,380	8.1%
Yamhill County (part); Oregon (part); Grand Ronde Community and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	45	264	17.1%
Total Grand Ronde Reservation Lands	402	4,644	8.7%
Klamath County (part); Oregon (part); Klamath Reservation Lands, OR	122	223	54.5%
Total Klamath Reservation Lands	122	223	54.5%
Lincoln County (part); Oregon (part); Siletz Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	697	6,018	11.6%
Marion County (part); Oregon (part); Siletz Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	0	0	-
Total Siletz Reservation Lands	697	6,018	11.6%

¹ These calculations are based on data from the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Umatilla County (part); Oregon (part); Umatilla Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	1,720	35,571	4.8%
Union County (part); Oregon (part); Umatilla Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	0	0	-
Total Umatilla Reservation Lands	1,720	35,571	4.8%
Clackamas County (part); Oregon (part); Warm Springs Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	0	0	-
Gilliam County (part); Oregon (part); Warm Springs Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	0	0	-
Hood River County (part); Oregon (part); Warm Springs Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	0	0	-
Jefferson County (part); Oregon (part); Warm Springs Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	4,687	33,669	13.9%
Marion County (part); Oregon (part); Warm Springs Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	0	0	-
Sherman County (part); Oregon (part); Warm Springs Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	0	0	-
Wasco County (part); Oregon (part); Warm Springs Reservation Lands and Off-Reservation Trust Lands, OR	1,458	9,338	15.6%
Total Warm Springs Reservation Lands	6,145	43,007	14.3%

10. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:

This waiver will provide consistency for households and State agency operations in areas where unemployment remains higher than the national average.

11. Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affection portion (if applicable):

The caseload for these areas, as of **May 31st, 2019**, represent **55%** of the caseload for the state. There are no quality control procedures involved.

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

The State is requesting a one-year waiver, from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

13. Proposed quality control review procedures:

There are no special quality control procedures needed in conjunction with this waiver.

14. State agency submitting waiver request and State contact person:

Department of Human Services, Self-Sufficiency Programs, SNAP Policy

15. Signature and title of requesting official:



Belit Burke

Title: SSP Program Design Administrator
Self-Sufficiency Programs
Oregon Department of Human Services

Email for transmission of response: Belit.Burke@dhsosha.state.or.us

16. Date of request: 06/28/2019

17. State agency staff contact (name/email/telephone):

Antonio Heras-De La Luz/antonio.heras-delaluz@dhsosha.state.or.us/503.945.6220

18. Regional office contact person (to be completed by FNS regional office):