



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

Katie Hobbs
Governor

Vacant
Director

August 5, 2024

Mr. James Abraham
SNAP Program Director
Food and Nutrition Service Southwest Region
United States Department of Agriculture
1100 Commerce Street, Room 522
Dallas, Texas 75242

Dear Mr. Abraham:

Included for your approval is Arizona's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents time-limit State Waiver Request.

The Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES) seeks a waiver for a group of 14 contiguous counties based on the region's aggregate average unemployment rate for the 24-month period of May 2022 - April 2024. The average national unemployment rate for this period was 3.6 percent; 20 percent above this is 4.4 percent. The region's aggregate average unemployment rate for this period was 4.7 percent.

The State also requests to waive 16 tribal reservations based on having average unemployment rates exceeding the national average for a recent 24-month period. The national average unemployment rate for this 24-month period was 3.6 percent; 20 percent above this is 4.4 percent. The unemployment rates in these 16 tribal reservations ranged from 4.9 percent to 21.8 percent. Reservation unemployment rates were calculated by applying 2018 - 2022 American Community Survey share ratios to county-level Bureau of Labor Statistics data from May 2022 - April 2024.

This request also has the support of Arizona's Governor, the state's chief executive officer.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Meeden, Senior Workforce Policy Manager, Division of Employment and Rehabilitation Services, at (480) 271-5794 or nmeeden@azdes.gov.

Sincerely,

Angie Rodgers
Executive Deputy Director
Cabinet Executive Officer

Enclosure