

ABLE-BODIED ADULTS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS (ABAWD) WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Type of request:** Initial
2. **Statutory citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended
3. **Regulatory citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
4. **State:** Nevada
5. **Region:** Western Regional Office
6. **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.
7. **Description of alternative procedures:** The State of Nevada is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in the entire state from the SNAP 3-month time limit at 7 CFR 273.24 for 24 months.
8. **Justification for request:** This request to exempt residents residing in the entire state from the time limit in 7 CFR 273.24 due to having insufficient jobs is based on the State of Nevada having an average unemployment rate greater than 20 percent above the national average for the 36-month period of December 2021 to November 2024. 7 CFR 273.24 (f)(2)(ii) states that, “To support a claim of lack of sufficient jobs, a State may submit evidence that an area (...) has a 24-month average unemployment rate 20 percent above the national average for the same 24-month period.” Guidance issued by FNS in February 2006 states that areas can be eligible for two-year waivers if they demonstrate that an area has “an unemployment rate greater than 20 percent above the national average for a 36-month period, ending no earlier than three months prior to the request”.¹

The State of Nevada seeks a two-year waiver based on the territory having an average unemployment rate greater than 20 percent above the national average for the 36-month period of December 2021 through November 2024. The State’s average unemployment rate for this 36-month period was 5.3 percent. The national average for this period was 3.8 percent; 20 percent above this was 4.5 percent.

¹ Memo dated February 3, 2006. “FSP – 2-Year Approval of Waivers of the Work Requirements for ABAWDs under 7 CFR 273.24.” <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/ABAWD/two-year-waiver-approval>

Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data December 2021 through November 2024		
	Unemployed	Labor force
Nevada	3,011,797	57,229,626
Unemployment Rate	5.3%	
20% Above the National Average Unemployment Rate Threshold	4.5%	

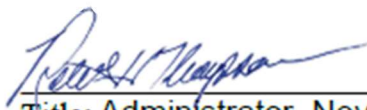
9. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations: This waiver will provide consistency for state operations.

10. Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affection portion (if applicable): This waiver affects the entire state.

11. Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:
The State is requesting a two-year waiver, from February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2027.

12. Proposed quality control review procedures: There are no quality control procedures involved.

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



Robert H. Thompson

Title: Administrator, Nevada Division of Welfare & Supportive Services

Email for transmission of response: rthompson@dwss.nv.gov

14. Date of request: 01-23-2025

15. State agency staff contact:

Name: Sheri Gallucci

Title: Social Services Chief I

Email: sgallucci@dwss.nv.gov

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