

From: [Emmanueline Archer](#)
To: [Glidden, Jennifer - FNS](#)
Cc: [Natalie Bailey](#); [Nestra Lawrence](#); [Mateus, Leidy - FNS](#); [Krebs, Ashley - FNS](#); [Pasquaretta, Kevin - FNS](#)
Subject: RE: [External Email]FW: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver
Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 5:07:12 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Ok will do.

Emmanueline Archer, MPA, CPM
Director, Program Operations
Certification Unit
Division of Family Assistance
Department of Human Services
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DHS Website: www.dhs.gov.vi



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From: Glidden, Jennifer - FNS <Jennifer.Glidden@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 4:25 PM
To: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>
Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>; Nestra Lawrence <Nestra.Lawrence1@dhs.vi.gov>; Mateus, Leidy - FNS <Leidy.Mateus@usda.gov>; Krebs, Ashley - FNS <ashley.krebs@usda.gov>; Pasquaretta, Kevin - FNS <kevin.pasquaretta@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: [External Email]FW: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver
Importance: High

Hi Miss Archer,

Apologies for my delayed response. Yes, that would be helpful to get Catlin's input on my question. I thought that it might just be an error with the label of some of the data. I'm happy to talk it through with Catlin if you want to share my contact information with her. Whatever works best for the Territory.

Thank you.

Jennifer

From: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 10:14 AM

To: Glidden, Jennifer - FNS <Jennifer.Glidden@usda.gov>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>; Nestra Lawrence <Nestra.Lawrence1@dhs.vi.gov>; Mateus, Leidy - FNS <Leidy.Mateus@usda.gov>; Krebs, Ashley - FNS <ashley.krebs@usda.gov>; Pasquaretta, Kevin - FNS <kevin.pasquaretta@usda.gov>

Subject: [External Email]FW: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

[External Email]

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Good day Ms. Glidden,

Sorry for the delayed response. I did slip me.

However, attached are the wavier and supporting documents that were sent to us from Catlin Nchako on June 14th, to request VI's wavier for 2025. I only updated the areas she indicated to update in that email.

I can reach out to her on the questions you are asking if that's ok with you. Let me know.

Thanks

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From: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Sent: Friday, June 14, 2024 7:14 PM

To: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Hello Emmanueline,

I hope that you have been well! We've updated our analysis using the revised BLS labor force data, and as predicted, that did not change VI's eligibility. Please accept my apologies for the delay in getting this to you - we have been updating a number of state analyses after the BLS data revision in mid-April.

Please find attached a waiver request for a territory-wide waiver for the Virgin Islands, starting in January 2025. The following documents are attached, which complete your request:

- a waiver request draft. Please be sure to fill out numbers 11, 15 through 16.
- a spreadsheet showing the BLS data used and the calculations.
- pdf files showing the BLS data downloaded.

Sincerely,
Catlin

Catlin Nchako

Research Analyst, Food Assistance Department

Center on Budget & Policy Priorities

1275 First Street NE, Suite 1200

Washington, DC 20002

(202) 325-8788 (direct line)

nchako@cbpp.org

From: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 3:37 PM

To: Catlin Nchako <cncchako@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Hi Catlin,

Thank you so much for the information. We can wait until May for the request.

Emmanueline Archer, MPA, CPM

Director, Program Operations

Certification Unit

Division of Family Assistance

Department of Human Services

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From: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 3:00 PM

To: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Hello Emmanueline,

Coming back to your request - Virgin Islands is eligible for another waiver for the whole territory in 2025, after the current waiver ends in December 2024. I have attached the spreadsheet showing the analysis.

I can write a request letter now, but I'd like to wait until after April if that works for you. BLS revises its current and historical labor force estimates once a year, usually at the end of April. If I send you a request now, and FNS doesn't look at it until after April, then I would have to re-do the request again anyway to use the revised data BLS would have at that time. I don't anticipate at all that the BLS revisions will change Virgin Islands' eligibility. The only numbers that would change slightly would be the national unemployment rate threshold. But VI's labor force numbers would remain the same.

I hope that this is helpful info. Let me know if May is an acceptable time for you to receive the waiver request.

Sincerely,

Catlin

Catlin Nchako

Research Analyst, Food Assistance Department

Center on Budget & Policy Priorities

1275 First Street NE, Suite 1200

Washington, DC 20002

(202) 325-8788 (direct line)

nchako@cbpp.org

From: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 11:41 AM

To: Catlin Nchako <cnochako@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Thank you!

Emmanueline Archer, MPA, CPM

Director, Program Operations

Certification Unit

Division of Family Assistance

Department of Human Services

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From: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 12:22 PM

To: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Hello Emmanueline,

I hope you are well too. I'll take a look at VI's eligibility next week and let you know.

I hope your day goes well too!

Catlin

From: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2024 9:31 AM
To: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>
Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Good day Catlin,

Trust this email finds you well.

We are contacting you early to find out if VI will still be eligible for ABAWDs for 2025 now that it is being looked at so closely by Congress. We want to ensure that if we are not, that we can start preparing early enough because changes would have to be made in the system as we have had the Waiver for so long now.

Thanks so much for all the help you have been providing us with this data and we look forward to hearing from you.

Do have a great day!

Emmanueline Archer, MPA, CPM

Director, Program Operations

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From: Emmanueline Archer

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 2:50 PM

To: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Ok, sounds good. Thank you!

Emmanueline Archer, MPA, CPM

Director, Program Operations

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From: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 2:12 PM

To: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Hello Emmanueline,

We started looking into the 2-year waiver and realized that we don't have enough unemployment data for a 2-year waiver request that starts in January 2024. We need to wait until unemployment data for next September comes out, which will likely be around November.

So you can comfortably submit the 12-month request we provided, and when we get the unemployment data we need in the fall, I'll circle back to you about VI's 2-year eligibility.

Sincerely,

Catlin

Catlin Nchako

(Pronouns: he/him/his, [why pronouns matter](#))

Research Analyst, Food Assistance Department

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

202-408-1080

1275 First Street NE, Suite 1200

Washington, DC 20002

From: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 9:01 AM

To: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall

<lhall@cbpp.org>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Good day Catlin,

That's wonderful! And yes, please look into the two year waiver and let us know.

We will await your response on this before we proceed in requesting the waiver.

Thanks again for your continued assistance to the VI.

Emmanueline Archer, MPA, CPM

Director, Program Operations

Certification Unit

Division of Family Assistance

Department of Human Services

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From: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 5:00 PM

To: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Hello Emmanueline,

We got to your request earlier than anticipated – Virgin Islands is eligible for another 12-month waiver for the entire territory, after the current waiver ends in December 2023.

I've gone ahead and drafted the request materials, since the analysis was very straightforward.

The following materials are attached, which will complete your request:

- a waiver request draft. Please be sure to fill out numbers 12, 14 through 17.
- excel spreadsheet showing the BLS data used and the calculations.
- pdf files showing the BLS data downloaded.

Please confirm receipt, and let me know if you have any questions!

On a related note, we can look into whether Virgin Islands is eligible for a 2-year territory-wide waiver, if that is of interest. If so, I expect to let you know by mid-July.

Sincerely,

Catlin

Catlin Nchako

(Pronouns: he/him/his, [why pronouns matter](#))

Research Analyst, Food Assistance Department

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

202-408-1080

1275 First Street NE, Suite 1200

Washington, DC 20002

From: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:03 PM

To: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Hi Catlin, that works for us. Thanks so much!

Emmanueline Archer, MPA, CPM

Director, Program Operations

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Division of Family Assistance

Department of Human Services

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From: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:59 PM

To: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Hello Emmanueline,

I hope that you have been well. That makes sense to see what VI is eligible for after its current waiver ends in December. I'm happy to take a look. There are enough labor force data to make that determination. I anticipate I can get this to you in early July – we are currently working to assist states whose current waivers are ending in early fall. But your analysis will not be far behind!

Does that work for you all? Please let me know.

Sincerely,

Catlin

Catlin Nchako

(Pronouns: he/him/his, [why pronouns matter](#))

Research Analyst, Food Assistance Department

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

202-408-1080

1275 First Street NE, Suite 1200

Washington, DC 20002

From: Emmanueline Archer <emmanueline.archer@dhs.vi.gov>

Sent: Friday, June 9, 2023 2:30 PM

To: Catlin Nchako <cnychako@cbpp.org>

Cc: Natalie Bailey <Natalie.Bailey@dhs.vi.gov>; Ed Bolen <bolen@cbpp.org>; Lauren Hall <lhall@cbpp.org>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL MAIL]RE: ABAWD Waiver

Importance: High

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Good day Catlin,

With all the correspondence that are currently being released from FNS on ABAWDS and the fact that the unemployment rate has been lowering drastically, the VI would like to apply for the

ABAWDS waiver early enough to see where we stand.

Many of the staff here has no or little knowledge of how ABAWDS work because we have had the waiver for a very long time.

So I think trying to apply early to see where the VI is, is important for training purpose on the ABAWDS time limit requirements, if we do not get approved for the waiver for next year.

Please advise and thanks as usual for your continued assistance on this matter.

Emmanueline Archer, MPA, CPM

Director, Program Operations

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