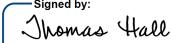


## STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. **Waiver Serial Number (if applicable):**
2. **Type of request:** Initial
3. **Statutory citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
4. **Regulatory citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
5. **State:** Delaware
6. **Region:** MARO
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 three months during any three-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 three-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:** Delaware is requesting a waiver for two cities 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.

Delaware seeks a waiver for two cities based on their individual average unemployment rates of at least 20 percent greater than the national average for the 24-month period of May 2023 through April 2025. The national average for this period was 3.9 percent; 20 percent above this was 4.7 percent.

| Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data<br>May 2023 through April 2025 |                     |                      |                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Individual Cities                                                                      | Unemployed<br>Total | Labor Force<br>Total | Unemployment<br>Rate |
| Dover city, DE                                                                         | 21,166              | 426,983              | 5.0%                 |
| Wilmington city, DE                                                                    | 46,740              | 887,217              | 5.3%                 |
| <b>20% Above National<br/>Average Threshold</b>                                        | <b>4.7%</b>         |                      |                      |

- 10. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:** This waiver will allow Delaware to waive the time limit for a portion of ABAWDs in the State.
- 11. Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affected portion (if applicable):** The caseload for these areas, as of May 1, 2025, represents 2,660 or 38% of the ABAWD caseload for the state. There are no new quality control procedures involved.
- 12. Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:**  
Delaware is requesting a one-year waiver, from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026.
- 13. Proposed quality control review procedures:** There are no new quality control procedures involved.
- 14. State agency submitting waiver request and State contact person:**  
State of Delaware  
Department of Health and Social Services  
Division of Social Services  
Thomas Hall, Director
- 15. Signature and title of requesting official:**  
  
Signed by:  
458894502EFB4F0...  
Name: Thomas Hall  
Title: Director, Division of Social Services  
Email for transmission of response: [thomas.hall@delaware.gov](mailto:thomas.hall@delaware.gov)
- 16. Date of request:** August 4, 2025
- 17. State agency staff contact (name/email/telephone):**  
Name: Shane Cannon  
Email: [shane.cannon@delaware.gov](mailto:shane.cannon@delaware.gov)  
Phone: (302) 255-9873

Name: Crystal Marion  
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Phone: (302) 255-9588

Name: Jessica Horn  
Email: [jessica.horn@delaware.gov](mailto:jessica.horn@delaware.gov)  
Phone: (302) 255-9599

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