



CALIFORNIA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



JENNIFER TROIA
DIRECTOR

GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

June 18, 2026

Muzafar Makhdoomi DVM, MVSC, PhD, MPVM, DACVPM
Regional Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Western Regional Office
Food and Nutrition Administration
90 Seventh Street, Suite 10-300
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Muzafar Makhdoomi:

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is requesting a one-year Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD) time limit waiver. If approved, the waiver will be effective from November 1, 2026 through October 31, 2027, and will apply in seven California counties: Colusa, Imperial, Kings, Merced, Monterey, Plumas, and Tulare. California's current waiver for Alpine, Colusa, Imperial, Merced, Monterey Plumas, and Tulare counties ends on October 31, 2026.

California seeks a waiver for these seven individual counties based on their unemployment rates being above 10 percent for the 3-month period of January 2026 through March 2026.

We appreciate FNS' consideration of California's request and appreciate a prompt response so that we may issue necessary guidance.

If you have any questions regarding this waiver request, you may contact me at (916) 272-6504 or Becky.Silva@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Becky Silva, Chief
CalFresh Branch
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division
California Department of Social Services

Enclosures

Signature:

Email: Becky.Silva@dss.ca.gov

Title: CalFresh Branch Chief

Company: STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF