

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: Wisconsin

6. Region: Midwest

7. Regulatory requirements:

Under 7 CFR 273.24(b) individuals are not 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 SNAP work requirements. Regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(a) provide that fulfilling the work requirement means: working 20 hours or more per week, averaged monthly; participating in and complying with the requirements of a work program or a workfare program for at least 20 hours per week; or any combination of working and participating in a work program for a total of 20 hours per week.

Under 7 CFR 273.24(f), upon the request of a State agency, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) may waive the applicability of the time limit described above for any group of individuals in the State if FNS makes a determination that the area in which the individuals reside has an unemployment rate above 10 percent.

8. Description of alternative procedures:

The State of Wisconsin is requesting to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) in 6 reservations from SNAP time limits.

9. Justification for request:

Under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(1), areas may qualify for a time limit waiver if they have an unemployment rate of over 10 percent.

The State requests to waive the following reservations based on having an average unemployment rate exceeding 10 percent for a recent 12-month period. The reservation unemployment rates were calculated by applying 2020-2024 American Community Survey¹ share ratios to county-level Bureau of Labor Statistics data from June 2025 through May 2026. The following table summarizes the calculations:

¹ These calculations are based on data from the 2020-2024 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

American Community Survey and Bureau of Labor Statistics Data June 2025 to May 2026			
Reservations	Unemployed	Labor Force	Unemployment Rate
Fond du Lac County (part); Wisconsin (part); Forest County Potawatomi Community and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI	-	-	-
Forest County (part); Wisconsin (part); Forest County Potawatomi Community and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI	337	1,826	18.5%
Milwaukee County (part); Wisconsin (part); Forest County Potawatomi Community and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI	-	-	-
Oconto County (part); Wisconsin (part); Forest County Potawatomi Community and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI	-	-	-
Total Forest County Reservation	337	1,826	18.5%
Adams County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	-	-	-
Clark County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	-	104	-
Crawford County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	-	10	-
Dane County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	-	-	-
Eau Claire County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	-	-	-

Jackson County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	388	2,299	16.9%
Juneau County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	45	397	11.3%
La Crosse County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	-	44	-
Marathon County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	11	43	25.5%
Monroe County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	32	301	10.6%
Sauk County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	143	774	18.5%
Shawano County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	69	388	17.9%
Vernon County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	-	-	-
Wood County (part); Wisconsin (part); Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI--MN	9	362	2.6%
Total Ho-Chunk Nation Reservation	698	4,722	14.8%
Iron County (part); Wisconsin (part); Lac du Flambeau Reservation, WI	-	-	-
Oneida County (part); Wisconsin (part); Lac du Flambeau Reservation, WI	-	197	-

Vilas County (part); Wisconsin (part); Lac du Flambeau Reservation, WI	1,740	16,703	10.4%
Total Lac du Flambeau Reservation	1,740	16,900	10.3%
Bayfield County (part); Wisconsin (part); Red Cliff Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI	935	6,037	15.5%
Total Red Cliff Reservation	935	6,037	15.5%
Barron County (part); Wisconsin (part); St. Croix Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI	-	228	-
Burnett County (part); Wisconsin (part); St. Croix Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI	169	1,424	11.9%
Polk County (part); Wisconsin (part); St. Croix Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI	78	546	14.3%
Total St. Croix Reservation	247	2,199	11.3%
Forest County (part); Wisconsin (part); Sokaogon Chippewa Community and Off-Reservation Trust Land, WI	337	2,671	12.6%
Total Sokaogon Chippewa Community	337	2,671	12.6%

10. Anticipated impact on households and State agency operations:

This waiver will provide consistency for households and State agency operations in areas where unemployment remains higher than the eligibility threshold.

11. Caseload information, including percent, characteristics, and quality control error rate for affection portion (if applicable):

The caseload for these areas, as of June 2026, represent 0.0002% of the caseload for the state. There are no quality control procedures involved.

12. Anticipated implementation date and time period for which waiver is needed:

The State is requesting a one-year waiver, from October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027.

13. Proposed quality control review procedures:

There are no special quality control procedures needed in conjunction with this waiver.

14. State agency submitting waiver request and State contact person:

Autumn Arnold
Bureau Director
Bureau of Eligibility and Enrollment Policy (BEEP)
Division of Medicaid Services
Wisconsin Department of Health Services

15. Signature and title of requesting official:



Title: Bureau Director

Email for transmission of response: Autumn.Arnold@dhs.wisconsin.gov

16. Date of request: July 16, 2026

17. State agency staff contact (name/email/telephone):

Jayne Wanless
FoodShare Section Manager
Bureau of Eligibility and Enrollment Policy
Email: JayneM.Wanless@dhs.wisconsin.gov
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18. Regional office contact person (*to be completed by FNS regional office*):