

May 6, 2005

2030034

SUBJECT: FSP – California – ABAWD Waiver

TO: Dennis Stewart
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Western Region

This is in response to your April 11, 2005, memo forwarding a request from the California Department of Social Services to modify and to extend waiver 2030034. We are approving this waiver. The waiver is effective on May 1, 2005, the day after the previous waiver expires. The waiver will expire on April 30, 2006.

Our detailed response is attached. If you have any questions, please contact Thomas O'Connell by email.

/s/

Harriet Kornegay
Assistant Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Attachment

cc: All Regions (except WRO) w/Attachment
Dan Wilusz, QC, PAD w/Attachment
Bob Dalrymple, OANE w/Attachment

FINAL:FNS:FSP:PDD:CPB:TO'Connell:5/4/05:je
File:I:CPB:Waivers:FY2005:2030034 CA 2005 extension:TO'Connell

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver Serial Number:** 2030034
2. **Type of Request:** Extension and Modification
3. **Primary regulation citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
4. **Secondary regulation citation:** N/A
5. **State:** California
6. **Region:** Western
7. **Regulatory Requirement:** 7 CFR 273.24 provides that no individual shall be eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program as a member of any household if, during the preceding 36 month period, the individual received food stamp benefits for not less than 3 months (consecutive or otherwise), during which the individual did not work 20 hours or more per week, averaged monthly; did not participate in and comply with the requirements of a work program for 20 hours or more per week; did not participate in and comply with requirements of a program under Section 20 or a comparable program established by the State; or received benefits because they were exempt from these requirements.

7 CFR 273.24(f) also provides that, upon the request of a State Agency, the Secretary may waive the applicability of the above provision 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 proposed alternative procedures:** The 3-month time-limit for ABAWDs would not apply in the waived jurisdictions, for the reasons that are explained in item 9.
9. **Action and reason for approval or denial:** We are approving the waiver for all the jurisdictions, based on the following criteria.

Labor Surplus Areas

California requested that the following counties receive waivers because they appear on the Department of Labor's list of Labor Surplus Areas (LSA's) for Fiscal Year 2005:

Alpine	Fresno	Madera	San Joaquin	Trinity
Calaveras	Glenn ¹	Mendocino	Siskiyou	Tulare
Del Norte	Kings	San Francisco	Stanislaus	

¹ California actually requested Glenn County based on its unemployment rate, but your office discovered that Glenn County is an LSA. Therefore, we are approving the county as an LSA.

An Unemployment Rate That Exceeds the National Average Unemployment Rate by More Than 20% for January 1, 2002 Through December 31, 2003

120% of the national average unemployment rate for calendar years 2002 and 2003 was 7.1%.

County	Unemployment Rate
Butte	7.9%
Kern	12.2%
Monterey	10.6%
Santa Cruz	8.4%

An Unemployment Rate That Exceeds 10% for December 1, 2003 Through November 30, 2004.

Jurisdiction (County or ZIP Code)	Unemployment Rate
Merced County	14.3%
Sacramento 95639	15.0%
Sacramento 95655	48.0%
Sacramento 95690	11.6%
Sacramento 95742	10.9%
Sacramento 95814	10.6%
Sacramento 95824	10.7%
Sacramento 95832	11.3%

10. **Regulatory or legislative basis for action:** This waiver is approved pursuant to 7 CFR 273.24(f)(3)(i), (ii), and (iii).
11. **Conditions and reasons:** None.
12. **Information required for extension:** To receive an extension the State agency must provide data or other information as described in 273.24(f)(2) and (f)(3). If California wishes to receive an extension based on unemployment rates, they must provide us with all supporting documentation, including spreadsheets in digital form.
13. **Expiration date:** April 30, 2006.
14. **Limitation, if any, on regional office approval of like requests:** This waiver is limited to the California Department of Social Services.
15. **Quality control procedures:** None.

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- 16. Date of national office action:**
- 17. Date of State agency's request:** April 1, 2005.
- 18. Date of regional office transmittal of request:** April 11, 2005.
- 19. Date of regional office transmittal of response to State agency:**
- 20. Actual implementation date:**