

JUN 26 2007

2070038

SUBJECT: FSP – California – ABAWD Waiver

TO: Dennis Stewart
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Western Region

This is in response to your April 23, 2007, electronic memo forwarding a request from the California Department of Social Services to modify and to extend waivers #2030034 & waiver #2060041. For clarity purposes, we approved the following area designated as Labor Surplus Area: Santa Cruz County, under waiver #2060041 in a separate memorandum. Per request we approved seven zip codes (94102, 94103, 94104, 94110, 94124, 94130, and 94134) within the City of San Francisco under a new waiver #2070038. Each of the specified zip codes exceeded the national average by 20 percent over a 36-month period (March 2004-February 2007).

Our detailed response is attached. If you have any questions, please contact Celeste Perkins by email.

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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:CPerkins:vw:06/13/07
File:I:CPB:Waivers:FY2007:2030034 CA 2007 ABAWD Extension

Symbol	Surname	Date	Symbol	Surname	Date
	Kornegay	6/27/07			

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver Serial Number:** 2070038
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 as requested for seven zip codes (94102, 94103, 94104, 94110, 94124, 94130, and 94134) which exceed the national average by 20 percent for a 36-month period (March 2004-February 2007). Please see chart below:

An Unemployment Rate That Exceeds 20% for 36-months (March 2004 Through February 2007).

Jurisdiction (ZIP Code)	Unemployment Rate	National Average
San Francisco 94102	9.48%	6.00%
San Francisco 94103	12.14%	6.00%
San Francisco 94104	34.81%	6.00%
San Francisco 94110	6.02%	6.00%
San Francisco 94124	10.26%	6.00%
San Francisco 94130	9.03%	6.00%
San Francisco 94134	6.00%	6.00%

The State provided the data from the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and current data from California's Employment Development Department (EDD) to demonstrate that the average unemployment rate for each of the specified zip codes exceeded the national average by 20 percent over a 36-month period (March 2004-February 2007). We have reviewed the data and concur that six of the seven zip codes qualify under the two year FNS waiver guidelines.

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:** This waiver is approved retroactively May 1, 2007 and will expire April 30, 2009.
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.
16. **Date of national office action:**
17. **Date of State agency's request:** April 19, 2007.
18. **Date of regional office transmittal of request:** April 23, 2007.
19. **Date of regional office transmittal of response to State agency:**
20. **Actual implementation date:**