

March 11, 2005

970304

SUBJECT: FSP – Connecticut – Request to Modify and Extend Waiver 970304

TO: Mary Ann Ferris, Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Northeast Region

This is in response to your memorandum of February 9, 2005, forwarding Connecticut's February 11, 2005, request to modify and extend waiver 970304, to waive the work requirement for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) per 7 CFR 273.24.

The current waiver 970304 expires on April 30, 2005. Under its terms, individuals residing in Bridgeport, Hartford, and Waterbury Cities are exempted based on their designation as Labor Surplus Areas (LSAs). The Town of Ansonia, New Britain City, and Killingly Town were also exempted based on a 24-month period of unemployment rates 20 percent above the national average for the same 24-month period.

The Connecticut State Agency is now requesting that its current waiver be modified and extended to waive Ansonia Town, Bridgeport City, Hartford City, Killingly Town, New Britain City, Waterbury City, and Winchester Town based on their designation as LSAs by the United States Department of Labor for fiscal year 2005. The Connecticut State Agency also requests that the addition and approval of Winchester Town be made to October 1, 2004, and the waiver be extended to September 30, 2005. We are not approving Winchester Town retroactive to October 1, 2004. However, we will approve Winchester Town based on its designation as a LSA for two-months effective February 2005 (date of State request) to April 30, 2005.

When the current waiver expires on April 30, 2005, we are approving its extension and modification to include Ansonia Town, Bridgeport City, Hartford City, Killingly Town, New Britain City, Waterbury City, and the addition of Winchester Town effective May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006. All waivers are approved from the date the State request is forwarded.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennie Nelson of my staff via e-mail or telephone at (703) 305-2446.

/s/

Harriet Kornegay
Assistant Branch Chief
Certification Policy Branch

cc: All Regions (except NERO)
PAD-QC
Bob Dalrymple – OANE
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FINAL:USDA:FNS:FSP:PDD:CPB:JNELSON:2/11/05
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