



Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

1320 Braddock Place  
Alexandria, VA  
22314

October 31, 2023

Daniel Giacomi  
Division Director  
Food and Nutrition  
Department of Social Services  
401 W. Thames Street #102,  
Norwich, Connecticut 06360

RE: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – Connecticut Request to Waive Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents Time Limit – Initial – Approval

Dear Director Giacomi:

This is in response to the Connecticut Department of Social Services' October 20, 2023, revised request to waive the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs). The attached waiver response includes the approved areas, the supporting evidence used, and the conditions of approval.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) also reminds the State agency that it must measure the 3-year period and track ABAWDs on a continuous basis, even in areas under a waiver. The State must continue tracking so that the State will be ready to transition off the waiver when it expires and reintroduce the time limit. Please contact your Regional Office representative with any questions.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

  
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Catrina L. Kamau  
Chief  
Certification Policy Branch  
Program Development Division

Enclosure

Enclosure

**ABLE-BODIED ADULTS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS (ABAWD)  
WAIVER RESPONSE**

1. **Request Type:** Initial
2. **Statutory Citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
3. **Regulatory Citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
4. **State:** Connecticut
5. **Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Region:** Northeast
6. **Requirement:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and regulations at 7 CFR 273.24 provide that no individual shall be 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 ABAWD work requirement. Section 6(o) and 7 CFR 273.24 also provide that, upon the request of the State agency, the Secretary may waive the applicability of the 3-month ABAWD time limit 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.
7. **Requested Area(s) and Support:** The State agency requested to waive the ABAWD time limit in 137 towns and cities from December 1, 2023, to November 30, 2024.

The State agency supported its request based upon the combined area of 137 towns and cities having an aggregate average unemployment rate 20 percent above the national average for the 24-month period of May 2021 through April 2023. During this period, the national average unemployment rate was 4.0 percent; 20 percent above that rate is 4.8 percent. The average unemployment rate for the combined area was 4.8 percent during the 24-month period (Table 1).

**Table 1: Combined Area (Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data, May 2021 – April 2023)**

<b>Towns and Cities</b>
Ansonia city/town, CT
Ashford town, CT
Avon town, CT
Barkhamsted town, CT
Beacon Falls town, CT
Berlin town, CT
Bethany town, CT

Bethel town, CT
Bloomfield town, CT
Bozrah town, CT
Branford town, CT
Bridgeport city/town, CT
Bridgewater town, CT
Bristol city/town, CT
Brookfield town, CT
Brooklyn town, CT
Burlington town, CT
Canaan town, CT
Canterbury town, CT
Canton town, CT
Chaplin town, CT
Cheshire town, CT
Colchester town, CT
Colebrook town, CT
Cornwall town, CT
Danbury city/town, CT
Darien town, CT
Derby city/town, CT
East Granby town, CT
East Hartford town, CT
East Haven town, CT
East Lyme town, CT
East Windsor town, CT
Eastford town, CT
Easton town, CT
Enfield town, CT
Fairfield town, CT
Farmington town, CT
Franklin town, CT
Glastonbury town, CT
Goshen town, CT
Granby town, CT
Greenwich town, CT
Griswold town, CT
Groton town, CT
Guilford town, CT
Hamden town, CT
Hampton town, CT
Hartford city/town, CT
Hartland town, CT
Harwinton town, CT

Killingly town, CT
Lebanon town, CT
Ledyard town, CT
Lisbon town, CT
Litchfield town, CT
Lyme town, CT
Madison town, CT
Manchester town, CT
Marlborough town, CT
Meriden city/town, CT
Middlebury town, CT
Milford (consolidated) city/town, CT
Monroe town, CT
Montville town, CT
Morris town, CT
Naugatuck borough/town, CT
New Britain city/town, CT
New Canaan town, CT
New Fairfield town, CT
New Hartford town, CT
New Haven city/town, CT
New London city/town, CT
New Milford town, CT
Newington town, CT
Newtown town, CT
Norfolk town, CT
North Branford town, CT
North Canaan town, CT
North Haven town, CT
North Stonington town, CT
Norwalk city/town, CT
Norwich city/town, CT
Old Lyme town, CT
Orange town, CT
Oxford town, CT
Plainfield town, CT
Plainville town, CT
Plymouth town, CT
Pomfret town, CT
Preston town, CT
Prospect town, CT
Putnam town, CT
Redding town, CT
Ridgefield town, CT

Rocky Hill town, CT
Roxbury town, CT
Salem town, CT
Scotland town, CT
Seymour town, CT
Shelton city/town, CT
Sherman town, CT
Simsbury town, CT
Somers town, CT
South Windsor town, CT
Southbury town, CT
Southington town, CT
Sprague town, CT
Stamford city/town, CT
Sterling town, CT
Stonington town, CT
Stratford town, CT
Suffield town, CT
Thomaston town, CT
Thompson town, CT
Torrington city/town, CT
Trumbull town, CT
Voluntown town, CT
Wallingford town, CT
Warren town, CT
Washington town, CT
Waterbury city/town, CT
Waterford town, CT
West Hartford town, CT
West Haven city/town, CT
Weston town, CT
Westport town, CT
Wethersfield town, CT
Wilton town, CT
Winchester town, CT
Windham town, CT
Windsor Locks town, CT
Windsor town, CT
Wolcott town, CT
Woodbridge town, CT
Woodbury town, CT
Woodstock town, CT
<b>Combined Area Unemployment Rate: 4.8%</b>

Data extracted from <http://www.bls.gov> on October 20, 2023.

**8. FNS Action and Justification:** FNS is approving the State agency's request to waive the ABAWD time limit. The State agency's request meets the requirements for approval provided at 7 CFR 273.24(f) and relevant FNS guidance.

**9. Authority:** The waiver is approved pursuant to section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and 7 CFR 273.24(f).

**10. Implementation Date:** December 1, 2023

**11. Expiration Date:** November 30, 2024

**12. Information Required to Submit a Modification, Extension, or New Waiver:**

To receive a modification, extension, or submit a new waiver to replace the current waiver, the State agency must provide FNS with a formal request supported by data or other information as described in 7 CFR 273.24(f). Any request based upon unemployment rates must include data spreadsheets and supporting documentation.

**13. State Agency Contact Information:**

Name: Todd Mallard

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Email: [Todd.Mallard@ct.gov](mailto:Todd.Mallard@ct.gov)

**14. FNS Regional Office Contact Information:**

Name: Ashley Krebs

Phone: (617) 565-1612

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