



Food and Nutrition Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

October 6, 2025

Thomas Hall
Director
Division of Social Services
Delaware Department of Health and Social Services
1901 North Dupont Highway, Lewis Building
New Castle, Delaware 19720

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

Dear Director Hall:

This is in response to the Department of Health and Social Services' August 8, 2025, request to waive the SNAP time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs).

On July 4, 2025, President Donald J. Trump signed into law the [One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025](#) (OB BB). Section 10102 of the OB BB amends the criteria under which the Secretary may approve a State agency request to waive the ABAWD time limit. It removes the criterion allowing waivers for areas where there is a lack of sufficient jobs to provide employment for the individuals. State agencies may now qualify for areas with unemployment rates over 10 percent, aside from separate provisions for Alaska and Hawaii.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is denying the State agency's request to waive the time limit in the specified areas. The State agency requested this waiver due to a lack of sufficient jobs and provided evidence of unemployment rates 20 percent above the national average. This criterion is not permissible to qualify for waivers of the time limit.

For further information on ABAWD waiver changes, please see the October 3, 2025, memo, [SNAP Provisions of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 – ABAWD Waivers - Implementation Memorandum](#). Please contact your Regional Office representative with any questions.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald Ward".
884CE83AFF4741A...

Ronald Ward
Acting Associate Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture