

October 9, 2008

2090002

SUBJECT: SNAP – Illinois Request to Waiver 7 CFR 273.24

TO: Tim English, Regional Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Midwest Region

This is in response to a request from the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS), dated October 2, 2008, to modify and extend waiver # 980017 to exempt able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) statewide from the work requirements contained in the regulations for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) at 7 CFR 273.24. Your office recommended approval and forwarded the request to our office on October 3, 2008, by email from Tina Kopec of your staff.

Currently, Illinois has an approved waiver, expiring on February 28, 2009, that exempts ABAWDs in 2 counties, 11 cities and additional areas including 182 municipalities. The State agency is requesting to modify this waiver by exempting the entire State for one year to begin on January 1, 2009, based on insufficient jobs in the State. In support of its request, the Illinois DHS submitted a U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Trigger Notice No. 2008-31, effective August 17, 2008, which provides data indicating that the State qualifies for extended unemployment benefits, based on the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 3304 (Public Law 102-318).

We are approving the State agency's request effective January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. A new waiver number has been assigned (# 2090002); this statewide waiver will supersede the waiver # 980017, which will expire on December 31, 2008. Additional information about this approval is attached. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Jupin by email or telephone (703) 305-2437.

/S/

Angela Kline
Assistant Branch Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Attachment

cc: CPB Email Distribution: ABAWD Waivers (MWRO)

FNS:SNAP:PDD:LJupin:rh:10/06/08:FINAL:10/8/08

I:PDD:CPB:Waivers: FY 2009: 2090002 – IL ABAWD Waiver: Initial Approval

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver serial number:** 2090002
2. **Type of request:** Initial
3. **Primary regulation citation:** 7 CFR 273.24(f)
4. **Secondary regulation citation:**
5. **State:** Illinois
6. **Region:** Midwest Region
7. **Regulatory Requirements:** Under 7 CFR 273.24(b), an individual is not eligible to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as a member of any household if, during the preceding 36-month period, the individual received SNAP 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; participate in and comply with the requirements of a work program for 20 hours or more per week; or participate in and comply with requirements of a program under Section 20 or a comparable program established by the State.

Under 7 CFR 273.24(f), upon the request of a State agency, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) may waive the applicability of the above provision for any group of individuals in the State if FNS 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:** Illinois is requesting to modify and extend ABAWD waiver #980017 by exempting the entire State for one year to begin on January 1, 2009, based on insufficient jobs in the State. In support of its request, the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) submitted a link to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Trigger Notice No. 2008-31, effective August 17, 2008, which provided data indicating that Illinois' total unemployment rate (TUR) qualified for extended unemployment benefits based on the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 3304 (P.L. 102-318). This information is summarized below:

	3-month TUR	Prior Year TUR	2nd Prior Year TUR
P.L. 102-318	6.5%	110%	110%
IL, per Trigger Notice 2008-31	6.8%	136%	151%

9. **Action and reason for approval or denial:** Based on the foregoing information, we are approving Illinois' request for a statewide waiver for 1-year to exempt ABAWDS in the entire State from the work requirement provisions of 7 CFR 273.24. A new waiver number is assigned to this waiver (# 2090002); this statewide waiver will supersede Illinois' current ABAWD waiver (# 980017), which will expire on December 31, 2008. Qualifying for extended unemployment benefits as determined by the DOL's Unemployment Insurance Service is listed in 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2)(ii) as acceptable evidence of insufficient jobs in an area.
10. **Regulatory or legislative basis for action:** This waiver is approved under the authority of 7 CFR 273.24(f), which allows FNS to waive the applicability of the work requirement provision for any group of individuals in the State if FNS determines that the area in which the individuals reside has insufficient jobs.
11. **Conditions and reasons:** n/a
12. **Information required for extension:** To receive an extension the State agency must provide data in 2009 indicating that the State continues to have insufficient jobs.
13. **Expiration date:** This waiver is approved effective January 1, 2009 and will expire on December 31, 2009.
14. **Limitation on regional office approval of like requests:** This waiver is limited to the Illinois State Agency.
15. **Quality control procedures:**
16. **Date of State agency's request:** October 2, 2008
17. **Date of regional office transmittal of request to national office:** October 3, 2008
18. **Date of national office action:**
19. **Date regional office notified State agency of determination:**
20. **Actual implementation date:**

TRIGGER NOTICE NO. 2008 - 31
STATE EXTENDED BENEFIT (E.B.) INDICATORS UNDER P.L. 102-318
Effective August 17, 2008

		INDICATORS							STATUS	
			13 Weeks Insured Unemployment Rate	Percent of Prior 2 Years	3 months S.A. T.U.R.	Year	Percent of prior Second Year	Available Weeks	Begin Date(B)	End Date(E)
	&	Alabama	1.84	124	4.8	137	137		E 06-04-1983	
@		Alaska	3.11	101	6.9	113	106	13	B 06-01-2008	
	&	Arizona	1.84	150	4.7	127	114		E 10-23-1982	
	&	Arkansas	2.68	110	4.9	90	92		E 03-26-1983	
	&	California	3.00	138	7.0	132	142		E 07-09-1983	
	&	Colorado	1.16	116	5.1	137	113		E 01-24-1981	
		Connecticut	2.63	115	5.5	125	127		E 01-24-1981	
	* &	Delaware	2.23	121	4.2	127	120		E 07-17-1982	
	&	District of Col	0.99	122	6.5	114	112		E 01-24-1981	
	* &	Florida	2.16	174	5.7	142	167		E 01-24-1981	
	* &	Georgia	1.99	145	5.8	131	126		E 01-24-1981	
	&	Hawaii	1.91	169	3.8	146	146		E 01-24-1981	
	&	Idaho	2.04	158	3.8	140	118		E 06-22-2002	
	&	Illinois	2.36	118	6.8	136	151		E 06-25-1983	
	&	Indiana	2.16	126	5.8	131	113		E 04-30-1983	
	* &	Iowa	1.55	118	4.1	107	107		E 06-04-1983	
		Kansas	1.40	110	4.5	109	102		E 11-06-1982	
	* &	Kentucky	1.98	122	6.4	116	110		E 03-19-1983	
	&	Louisiana	1.36	110	3.9	102	111		E 02-25-2006	
	&	Maine	1.69	120	5.4	114	114		E 06-25-1994	
	&	Maryland	1.88	137	4.1	113	107		E 07-31-1982	
	* &	Massachusetts	2.74	117	5.1	113	106		E 06-29-1991	
	&	Michigan	3.36	111	8.5	119	125		E 01-17-2004	
	&	Minnesota	1.60	114	5.5	122	144		E 06-18-1983	
	&	Mississippi	2.26	114	7.2	114	109		E 07-16-1983	
	&	Missouri	1.96	109	6.0	120	125		E 06-19-1982	
	&	Montana	1.73	128	4.1	132	124		E 06-04-1983	
	&	Nebraska	1.03	100	3.3	106	110		E 01-24-1981	
	&	Nevada	2.79	166	6.4	133	152		E 04-23-1983	
	* &	New Hampshire	1.40	135	3.9	108	111		E 01-24-1981	
		New Jersey	3.04	113	5.4	128	114		E 06-19-1982	
		New Mexico	1.70	111	3.9	111	90		E 11-27-1982	
	&	New York	2.17	110	5.3	115	115		E 01-24-1981	
		North Carolina	2.38	124	6.1	129	129		E 12-13-2003	
	* &	North Dakota	0.69	96	3.3	103	103		E 06-11-1983	
	&	Ohio	2.15	129	6.7	119	124		E 05-14-1983	
	&	Oklahoma	1.07	107	3.9	88	95		E 01-24-1981	
		Oregon	3.11	135	5.7	109	107		E 01-10-2004	
	&	Pennsylvania	3.12	112	5.2	120	113		E 08-06-1983	
	&	Puerto Rico	4.56	125	11.2	100	101		E 01-01-2000	
@		Rhode Island	3.07	122	7.5	150	147	13	B 07-06-2008	
	&	South Carolina	2.65	128	6.5	114	103		E 03-19-1983	
	* &	South Dakota	0.40	88	2.9	100	93		E 01-24-1981	

	&	Tennessee	1.84	118	6.6	143	124	E 09-25-1982
	&	Texas	1.18	109	4.5	104	90	E 01-24-1981
*	&	Utah	1.03	162	3.3	122	110	E 06-25-1983
		Vermont	2.16	119	4.8	126	133	E 07-13-1991
	&	Virgin Islands	1.62	147	4.5	145	195	E 08-06-1983
	&	Virginia	1.11	128	4.1	136	136	E 01-24-1981
*		Washington	1.95	124	5.5	122	110	E 01-10-2004
	&	West Virginia	1.90	111	5.0	108	104	E 07-13-1991
	&	Wisconsin	2.68	119	4.7	97	100	E 06-18-1983
*	&	Wyoming	0.81	108	3.2	100	100	E 06-13-1987

Total Number "ON": 2

0

2

* - State does not have 6 % I.U.R option in law

& - State does not have T.U.R option in law

August 15, 2008

@ - State "ON" by 3-month average T.U.R

I.U.R reflects 13-week period ending August 02, 2008

T.U.R reflects avg. seasonally adjusted T.U.R for 3-month period end July 2008