



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

DEC 31 2008

Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

SUBJECT: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Minnesota Waiver  
2090020; ABAWD's

3101 Park  
Center Drive

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

Alexandria, VA  
22302-1500

We are approving the request from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) to exempt all ABAWD's in Minnesota from the time limit on participation in SNAP. This is a statewide waiver of 7 CFR 273.24(b), in accordance with 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2)(ii) which allows a waiver of this requirement based on the Department of Labor's determination that the state qualifies for extended unemployment benefits.

This waiver replaces waivers 970170 and 980014, which are scheduled to expire on September 30, 2009.

Our response approving the waiver for one year is attached. If you have any questions, please contact Thomas O'Connell of my staff at (703) 305-2390 or at [Thomas.O'CONNELL@fns.usda.gov](mailto:Thomas.O'CONNELL@fns.usda.gov).

Sandra Clark  
Chief  
Certification Policy Branch  
Program Development Division

Attachment

## WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver serial number:** 2090020
2. **Type of request:** Initial
3. **Primary regulation citation:** 273.24(b)
4. **Secondary regulation citation:** None
5. **State:** Minnesota
6. **Region:** MWRO
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, the 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:**

Minnesota proposes to exempt the entire state from the time limit, between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009, based on insufficient jobs in the State. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) has submitted the U.S. Department of Labor's report entitled "Second Tier EUC 2008 Triggers Under P.L. 110-449", effective December 7, 2008, which shows that Minnesota is entitled to extended unemployment compensation benefits.

9. **Action and reason for approval or denial:**

FNS is approving DHS's request for a statewide waiver because Minnesota qualifies for extended unemployment benefits.

**10. Regulatory or legislative basis for action:**

Federal regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(1)(ii) allow a statewide waiver based on a state's qualifying for extended unemployment benefits.

**11. Conditions and reasons:**

None.

**12. Information required for extension:**

To receive an extension DHS must provide data in 2009 indicating that the State continues to have insufficient jobs.

**13. Expiration date:**

December 31, 2009.

**14. Limitation, if any, on regional office approval of like requests:**

Approval of this waiver is limited to the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

**15. Quality control procedures:**

None.

**16. Date of the national office's action:**

**17. Date of the state agency's request:**

December 23, 2008.

**18. Date of the regional office transmittal of the request to the national office:**

December 23, 2008.

**19. Date of the regional office's transmittal of the response to the state agency:**

**20. Actual implementation date:**