

June 15, 2026

Jessica Bax, Director
Missouri Department of Social Services
221 W. High St., Room 240
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Director Bax:

On June 2, 2026, the Missouri Department of Social Services requested to modify the State agency's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Food Restriction Waiver. The State agency seeks to change the waiver's implementation date from October 1, 2026, to February 15, 2027, and to modify its restricted food definition.

The Food and Nutrition Administration (FNA) approves this modification request. As expressed in the State agency's request letter, this modification is intended to give the State, retailers, and other relevant stakeholders more time to complete pre-implementation activities and to clarify its restricted food definition to support successful implementation.

This approval is for 2 years, from February 15, 2027, through February 15, 2029. FNA provides an adjusted project reporting schedule in the enclosure, as well as the State agency's modified restricted food definition. All other terms and conditions, as outlined in the approval issued on December 10, 2025, remain in effect.

FNA applauds Missouri and its SNAP team for the significant efforts you have made towards implementation of your SNAP Food Restriction Waiver thus far. We look forward to continuing to support your efforts to successfully implement this innovative and impactful project on February 15, 2027.

Sincerely,



SHIELA CORLEY
Acting Administrator, Food and Nutrition Administration
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Enclosure

Enclosure

Missouri Project Reporting Schedule

Report	Date Range Covered	Due Date
Year 1, Quarter 1	February 15, 2027 – May 31, 2027	July 15, 2027
Year 1, Quarter 2	June 1, 2027 – August 31, 2027	October 15, 2027
Year 1, Quarter 3	September 1, 2027 – November 30, 2027	January 14, 2028
Year 1, Quarter 4	December 1, 2027 – February 29, 2028	April 14, 2028
Year 2, Quarter 1	March 1, 2028 – May 31, 2028	July 15, 2028
Year 2, Quarter 2	June 1, 2028 – August 31, 2028	October 15, 2028
Year 2, Quarter 3	September 1, 2028 – November 30, 2028	January 14, 2029
Year 2, Quarter 4	December 1, 2028 – February 28, 2029	April 14, 2029
Extension Request	Submit by September 15, 2028	

MISSOURI SNAP FOOD RESTRICTION DEMONSTRATION PROJECT WAIVER: MODIFICATION TO RESTRICTED FOODS DEFINITION

Candy Definition:

- "Candy" means a product that involves the preparation of sugar or artificial sweeteners in combination with chocolate, fruit, nuts, caramels, gummies, and hard candies or other ingredients or flavorings in the form of bars, drops, or pieces. Candy does not include items containing flour or requiring refrigeration.

Pre-packaged Ready to Eat Desserts Definition:

- "Pre-packaged Ready to Eat Desserts" means a processed, shelf-stable, ready-to-eat, pre-packaged sweet food intended for immediate consumption without any further preparation. This includes doughnuts, brownies, cupcakes, cookies, snack cakes, muffins, pastries, sweet rolls, pies, cakes, pudding, churros, scones, and gelatin desserts. This would include foods mostly made from "chemically" modified substances extracted from foods, along with additives to enhance taste, texture, appearance, and durability, with minimal whole foods.

Soda, Juice, Punch and Tea Definition:

- Carbonated and noncarbonated soft drinks, defined as any nonalcoholic beverage that is made with or without carbonated water and is sweetened with more than 10 grams of sugar per serving. "Soft drinks" do not include a beverage that contains milk, milk products, soy, rice, or other milk substitutes, or that is greater than 50 percent vegetable or fruit juice by volume.
- All other drinks or punches with natural fruit or vegetable juice which contain 50 percent or less by volume natural fruit or vegetable juice.
- Concentrates intended to be made into beverages which contain 50 percent or less by volume natural fruit or vegetable juice.

Energy Drink Definition:

- Energy drinks, which are carbonated or non-carbonated beverages containing a stimulant such as fortified caffeine, guarana, glucuronolactone, or taurine. They may also include herbal extracts such as ginseng, mineral salts and vitamins, or high doses of organic acids, amino acids, inositol, sugars, or other similar compounds in addition to sweeteners. Juices or natural fruit pulp or concentrates may also be added. Energy drinks are specifically formulated to enhance energy, alertness, or physical performance. Beverages marketed primarily as sports drinks to increase hydration, like Gatorade or medically necessary nutritional products, are not included.