

April 22, 2008

2030065

SUBJECT: FSP –Ohio – ABAWD Waivers

TO: Tim English
Regional Director
Food Stamp Program
Midwest Regional Office

This is in response to your March 26, 2008, memorandum forwarding a request from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to modify and to extend waiver 2030065. We are approving this request.

Please find attached our detailed response. Please contact Celeste Perkins if you have questions or need additional information.

/S/

Harriet Kornegay
Assistant Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Attachment(s)

cc: All Regions (except MWRO) w/Attachment

FINAL:FNS:FSP:PDD:CPB:CPerkins: 4/22/08:JRagan:04/22/08:305-2519
DIR:I:CPB:Waivers:FY2008:2030065 OH ABAWD 2008 Mod.& Ext.

Symbol	Surname	Date	Symbol	Surname	Date

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

WAIVER RESPONSE

1. **Waiver Serial Number:** 2030065
2. **Type of Request:** Modification and Extension
3. **Primary regulation citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
4. **Secondary regulation citation:**
5. **State:** Ohio
6. **Region:** Midwest
7. **Regulatory Requirement:** Under 7 CFR 273.24(b) individuals are not eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program as a member of any household if, during the preceding 36-month period, the individual received food stamp 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 the 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.

In addition, the FNS will approve two-year State agency waivers under limited circumstances, targeting areas that qualified for waivers for two consecutive past years. In order to be eligible for a two-year waiver, the area must meet at least one of the following criteria indicating that the area has experienced and will probably continue chronic high unemployment: an unemployment rate greater than 10 percent for the two-year period immediately prior to the request; designation as a Labor Surplus Area (LSA) by the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (DOLETA) for a minimum of two consecutive fiscal years (the year of the request and the fiscal year prior to the request); or an unemployment rate greater than 20 percent above the national average for a 36-month period, ending no earlier than three months prior to the request.

8. Description of proposed alternative procedures:

The State is requesting a 2-year state-wide waiver of the regulatory requirements listed in paragraph 7 for the 88 counties listed in the table below, based upon the inclusion of these counties in a region that has a combined aggregate average unemployment rate of 5.7 that is at least 20 percent above the national average of 4.8 during a recent 36-month period (January 2005 through December 2007).

Area	Unemployment Rate, JAN 2005 – DEC 2007	Area	Unemployment Rate, JAN 2005 – DEC 2007
Adams County	7.9	Licking County	5.4
Allen County	6.2	Logan County	4.9
Ashland County	5.9	Lorain County	5.9
Ashtabula County	6.9	Lucas County	6.6
Athens County	6.1	Madison County	5.4
Auglaize County	4.5	Mahoning County	6.6
Belmont County	6.0	Marion County	5.7
Brown County	6.6	Medina County	4.9
Butler County	5.3	Meigs County	9.1
Carroll County	6.3	Mercer County	3.9
Champaign County	5.6	Miami County	5.5
Clark County	6.1	Monroe County	11.2
Clermont County	5.1	Montgomery County	6.2
Clinton County	5.0	Morgan County	9.3
Columbiana County	6.6	Morrow County	5.9
Coshocton County	7.4	Muskingum County	7.7
Crawford County	6.6	Noble County	7.6
Cuyahoga County	5.8	Ottawa County	7.3
Darke County	5.8	Paulding County	5.1
Defiance County	5.8	Perry County	7.6
Delaware County	4.1	Pickaway County	6.2
Erie County	6.1	Pike County	9.5
Fairfield County	5.1	Portage County	5.4
Fayette County	5.2	Preble County	5.9
Franklin County	4.9	Putnam County	5.0
Fulton County	6.1	Richland County	6.4
Gallia County	6.4	Ross County	6.8
Geauga County	4.7	Sandusky County	6.0
Greene County	5.3	Scioto County	7.9
Guernsey County	6.6	Seneca County	5.7
Hamilton County	5.2	Shelby County	4.6
Hancock County	4.6	Stark County	6.0
Hardin County	5.8	Summit County	5.5
Harrison County	6.2	Trumbull County	6.5
Henry County	6.1	Tuscarawas County	5.4

Highland County	5.8	Union County	4.6
Hocking County	6.7	Van Wert County	5.2
Holmes County	4.0	Vinton County	8.1
Huron County	7.7	Warren County	4.8
Jackson County	7.6	Washington County	5.4
Jefferson County	7.0	Wayne County	4.8
Knox County	5.3	Williams County	6.0
Lake County	5.0	Wood County	5.4
Lawrence County	5.5	Wyandot County	6.0
		Total for Combined Counties	5.7

8. **Action and reason for approval or denial:** We are approving the waiver for the jurisdictions listed in paragraph 8 in accordance with the request submitted by the State. All of the data submitted by the State meets the requirements of approval pursuant to 7 CFR 273.24(f)(3) and additional FNS guidance.
9. **Regulatory or legislative basis for action:** This waiver is approved pursuant to 7 CFR 273.24(f)(3)(i), (ii), and (iii).
11. **Conditions and reasons:** None.
12. **Information required for extension:** To receive an extension the State agency must provide data or other information as described in 273.24(f)(2) and (f)(3). If Ohio wishes to receive an extension based on unemployment rates, they must provide us with all supporting documentation, including spreadsheets in digital form.
13. **Expiration date:** This waiver is effective beginning July 1, 2008 and will expire on June 30, 2010.
14. **Limitation, if any, on regional office approval of like requests:** These waivers are limited to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.
15. **Quality control procedures:** None.
16. **Date of national office action:**
17. **Date of State agency's request:** March 21, 2008.
18. **Date of regional office transmittal of request:** March 26, 2008.
19. **Date of regional office transmittal of response to State agency:**
20. **Actual implementation date:**

