



AUG 02 2013

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

3101 Park
Center Drive

Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

SUBJECT: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - Able Bodied Adults without Dependents Waivers for Fiscal Year 2014

TO: All Regional Directors
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

This memo provides the list of States that are eligible to waive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participation time limits for Able Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) for fiscal year (FY) 2014. Under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 273.24(f)(2), a State can qualify for a 12-month statewide ABAWD waiver if the Department of Labor (DOL) Unemployment Insurance Service determines that it qualifies for extended unemployment benefits. Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) can approve a waiver if the State qualifies for extended benefits (EB), regardless of whether the State has elected the option to offer EB itself. States that meet the EB criteria can qualify for a 12-month statewide ABAWD waiver up to 12 months after the trigger date.

DOL Emergency Unemployment Compensation Trigger Notice 2012-47, effective December 9, 2012, indicates that 42 States or geographic areas met the emergency unemployment compensation criteria:

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virgin Islands, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin

Thus, the 42 qualifying States or geographic areas may suspend the time limits on ABAWD participation for FY 2014, from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. In addition, State agencies that appear on a different DOL Trigger Notice beginning no earlier than October 1, 2012, also qualify for a FY 2014 ABAWD waiver. States must notify their FNS regional office of waiver implementation. We request that States provide written notification of their decision to adopt this waiver to their FNS regional office by September 1, 2013.

A number of States have already submitted formal ABAWD waiver requests citing the trigger notice as the basis for approval. FNS will consider those requests as notification of the State's intent to implement an ABAWD waiver for FY 2014. For States that do not qualify for a statewide waiver under the EB trigger notice, SNAP regulations at 273.24(f) provide details about additional ways a State may qualify for an ABAWD waiver, either statewide or within certain areas of the State.

The contents of this guidance document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

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All Regional Directors

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If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Davis at Stephanie.Davis@fns.usda.gov.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lizbeth Silberman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Lizbeth Silberman

Director

Program Development Division