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jfs.ohio.gov

OFFICE OF FAMILY STABILITY LETTER #71

June 11, 2008

TO: Directors, County Departments of Job and Family Services

FROM: Jeanne Carroll, Deputy Director
Office of Family Stability

**SUBJECT: Able-bodied Adults Without Dependents Work Requirement—All 88
Counties Waived**

This letter is not intended to change, replace, or obsolete any portion of applicable federal law, Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule, or Food Stamp Certification Handbook (FSCH) regulation. For a complete explanation of the policies, please reference the FSCH, ORC, OAC, and/or other applicable federal regulations.

Background

Legislative language included in H.B. 119 (enacted by the 127th General Assembly), effective July 1, 2007, requires ODJFS to request from the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) a waiver of the applicability of the work requirements outlined in OAC rule 5101:4-3-20 for individuals defined as able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs). The language requires ODJFS to request a waiver for counties where the average unemployment rate for twelve recent calendar months exceeded ten per cent or in areas that do not have sufficient jobs to provide employment.

Update

The Food and Nutrition Service has approved a waiver from the ABAWDs work requirements for all 88 counties based on all counties in Ohio having an unemployment rate that exceeds the national average by 20 percent during a recent 36-month period, January 2005 through December 2007. **This statewide waiver is approved for a period of two years, effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010.**

The remaining 19 counties not previously approved for the waiver are: Auglaize, Butler, Clermont, Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Licking, Logan, Medina, Mercer, Paulding, Portage, Summit, Union, Van Wert, Warren, and Wayne.

CRIS-E reference table TAWC will be updated to reflect the counties approved under the waiver modification and extension effective July 1, 2008. A CRIS-E view flash bulletin will also be posted.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the TANF_FSTA mailbox.

JC: mb

c:	Helen E. Jones-Kelley, Director	Loretta Adams, OJFSDA
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