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Office of Family Stability Letter # 52  
July 6, 2006

**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—  
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**

Amended Sub. H.B. 66, of the 126<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, effective July 1, 2005, required Ohio 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) who are residing in a county where the average unemployment rate for twelve recent calendar months exceeded ten per cent or residing in a county that does not have sufficient jobs to provide employment for these individuals.

### **Update**

We have received from FNS approval of a waiver modification request to waive 61 counties from the ABAWD work requirements based on sub-regions that have an unemployment rate of 20 percent above the national average for a 24-month period, January 2004-December 2005.

Effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, the counties waived are as follows: Adams, Allen, Ashland, Ashtabula, Athens, Belmont, Brown, Carroll, Clark, Columbiana, Coshocton, Crawford, Darke, Defiance, Erie, Fayette, Fulton, Gallia, Guernsey, Harrison, Henry, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Huron, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Lawrence, Lucas, Madison, Mahoning, Marion, Meigs, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Morrow, Muskingum, Noble, Ottawa, Perry, Pickaway, Pike,

Preble, Putnam, Richland, Ross, Sandusky, Scioto, Seneca, Shelby, Stark, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Vinton, Washington, Williams, Wood and Wyandot.

All counties approved for the extended waiver remain the same as the previously waived counties with the exception of **Champaign and Shelby Counties**. Shelby County, which was not previously approved for the waiver, qualifies for the waiver effective July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. The waiver ends June 30, 2006 for Champaign County due to a decrease in unemployment. Effective July 1, 2006, ABAWD individuals in Champaign County are again required to comply with the ABAWD work requirements of OAC rule 5101:4-3-20.

CRIS-E reference table TAWC has been updated to reflect the counties approved under the waiver modification effective July 1, 2006. A CRIS-E view flash bulletin was also posted June 29, 2006 through July 3, 2006.

No rule changes are required.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the TANF-FSTA mailbox.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

JC: mb

cc:	Barbara Riley, Director	Family Stability Staff
	Fred Williams, Assistant Director	Loretta Adams, OJFSDA
	Bruce Madson, Assistant Director	Crystal Allen, PCSAO
	Neva Terry, Assistant Director	Kim Newsome, OCDA
	ODJFS Deputy Directors	Larry Long, CCAO