December 21, 2005

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 Allocations of the 15 Percent Exemptions for Able-

Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs)

TO: All Regional Directors Food Stamp Program

Attached is a list of state-by-state 15 percent ABAWD exemptions for FY 2006. 7 CFR 273.24 authorizes the Food and Nutrition Service to adjust the number of 15 percent exemptions allocated to each State at the beginning of the fiscal year to reflect changes in the States' caseloads and our estimate of changes in the proportion of food stamp recipients covered by waivers.

We wish to remind you and your States about the following points regarding these exemptions:

- The FY 2006 list does not include any carryover amount from States' FY 2005 usage. We will send you the FY 2006 adjusted allocations as soon as state agencies report actual usage from the FNS-583 report.
- State agencies have broad discretion to use their exemptions as they see fit.
- States must not use more than their assigned allocation.
- States must closely monitor their use of case-month exemptions.
- The figures in attachment should be used for planning purposes only. We explain how States can calculate the number of case-month exemptions available to them in our memo "Guidance for States on Use of Discretionary Food Stamp Program Time Limit Exemptions", which is posted on our website at

http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/rules/Memo/PRWORA/abawds/020998.htm

• For Quality Control (QC) reviews, if a case file does not identify a case as containing ABAWD individuals exempt under the 15 percent criteria, the case shall be reviewed using established QC review procedures for the evaluation on the time limited participation of ABAWD recipients. If the case file identifies a case as exempt under the 15 percent criteria, then the determination to exempt the case under the 15 percent criteria is not subject to examination by the QC reviewer.

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If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Larry Tropp of my staff at 703-305-2504.

/s/

Arthur T. Foley Director Program Development Division

Attachment

## FY 2006 Allowable Case-Month Exemptions by State

	Original Allocation	
	Case-months	Persons
State	Allowed*	Exempted**
Alabama	1,338	503
Alaska	0	0
Arizona	405	152
Arkansas	571	214
California	7,293	2742
Colorado	580	218
Connecticut	1,259	473
Delaware	183	69
Dist. of Col.	0	0
Florida	5,027	1890
Georgia	2,997	1127
Guam	24	9
Hawaii	519	195
Idaho	279	105
Illinois	0	0
Indiana	1,599	601
Iowa	623	234
Kansas	251	94
Kentucky	1,500	564
Louisiana	0	0
Maine	664	250
Maryland	565	212
Massachusetts	1,222	460
Michigan	0	0
Minnesota	905	340
Mississippi	1,026	386
Missouri	2,583	971
Montana	288	108
Nebraska	404	152
Nevada	666	250
New		
Hampshire	79	30
New Jersey	861	324
New Mexico	262	99
New York	6,189	2327
North Carolina	0	0

	Original Allocation	
_	Case-months	Persons
State	Allowed*	Exempted**
North Dakota	154	58
Ohio	3,894	1464
Oklahoma	1,516	570
Oregon	0	0
Pennsylvania	4,048	1522
Rhode Island	171	64
South Carolina	0	0
South Dakota	127	48
Tennessee	4,586	1724
Texas	7,931	2982
Utah	287	108
Vermont	263	99
Virginia	1,755	660
Virgin Islands	27	10
Washington	0	0
West Virginia	1,358	510
Wisconsin	435	163
Wyoming	145	54

For planning purposes ONLY. States need to count their exempted case months.

96 CWEP Adj. does not take into account states providing work opportunities through the E&T program

<sup>\*</sup> Average monthly case-months allowed.