[redacted]

Subject: COVID-19: IL Extend Cert Periods and Interview Adjustments through July 31, 2020 - Approval

[redacted]

Dear Leslie,

Thank you for your email on July 24. Your request to extend the following adjustments has been approved through July 31, 2020:

Adjustment Name	COV #
Extend Cert Periods and Adjust Reporting Requirements	COV-006
Waive Initial and Recertification Interviews	COV-094

All terms and conditions outlined within the previously approved adjustments apply. Please note, the evaluation report deadline remains 45 days after the end of the adjustments. Data only needs to be provided once per adjustment, regardless of the duration of the waiver.

As noted in our previous email, FNS will approve extensions beyond August on an extremely limited basis. In order to receive an extension beyond August, a State must have an emergency order that extends into the month in which the State is requesting the adjustment and provide data that demonstrates that the adjustment continues to be warranted given the current circumstances in the State. FNS expects requests include data on substantial increases in new applications in recent months (e.g. July and August for September adjustment), sizable increases in a backlog of case actions or applications, or a significant decrease in staffing capacity due to COVID-19, among other supporting information. States are expected to reasonably adjust to changing circumstances, including caseload growth, and FNS will not approve requests where the data is merely comparable with the State agency's data from non-COVID-19 circumstances in which FNS was working with the State under a corrective action plan. These requests should also include plans to return to a new normal in a short time frame. States must submit these requests by the 10th day of the month before the adjustment would take effect with a response due back from FNS to the State by the 15th. Because approvals for adjustments beyond August will be extremely limited, States should make arrangements to ensure they are able to return to their new normal by September 1, 2020.

We stand ready to provide technical assistance and answer any of your questions.

Please confirm receipt of this email.

Thank you,

Julie Mikkelson

SNAP Director

USDA FNS MWRO

77 W Jackson Blvd 20th floor

Chicago IL 60604

[redacted]