FYI – we will cc the mailbox in the future. Thanks! Libby

Hi Heather and OR Team,

Please consider the No interview for Elderly/Disabled waiver approved as part of the Waive Initial interview and recertification interview waiver.

As always, please reach out if you need any clarification in the waiver process.

Thank you –

Charles

Hi Dan, Claire, and Heather,

I’ve really enjoyed our robust conversation around waiver requests yesterday. Today is a different story! Your request to extend the following adjustments has been approved through July 31 and August 31, 2020:
• Extend Certification Periods – Blanket
• Postpone Expedited Service Interview – COV-150
• Waive Initial and Recertification Interview – COV-1116

All terms and conditions outlined within the previously approved adjustment(s) 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 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.

Please keep-in-mind that the No Interview for Elderly/Disabled waiver is still pending approval – it’s not part of this waiver extension.

Again, I appreciate OR’s patience and strategic engagement in the process.

Thank you –

Charles Tobin