

Posted: 7/16/2020

To: School Food Authorities (SFAs)

Subject: SFS-20-x217 Waiver Submission Through the Child Nutrition Program Website for SY 20-21

Pursuant to section 2202(a) of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (the Act) (P.L. 116-127), and in light of the exceptional circumstances surrounding COVID-19, USDA FNS has established additional nationwide waivers for the 2021-21 School Year (through June 30, 2021). These waivers are available to schools that elect to use them.

Each School Food Authority operating the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) will need to make waiver determinations via the online Child Nutrition Program Website, located at <http://cnp.doe.louisiana.gov> . **Note that log-in is required to complete this process.**

Instructions for completing the School Year 2020-21 online waivers is provided below.

1. Each SFA intending to elect the use of any/all waivers for School Year 20-21 must indicate this intent on the Schedule A.
As part of the online application, there will be a question on the Sponsor Meal Info tab to capture this intent.

2020-2021 Waiver Use	
Will waivers be used for school year 2020-2021??	Please select an option: ▼

2. Accessing the Waivers
 - a. Click **Waivers (under Forms)** on the green side bar



Waiver Elections

Waivers				
Waiver	Status	Election		
Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in Child Nutrition Programs	Not-Started			Start
Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs	Not-Started			Start
Delivery of Meals to Households	Not-Started			Start
Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer versus Serve Flexibility for Senior High Schools in NSLP	Not-Started			Start
Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children	Not-Started			Start
Meal Pattern Waivers (1 per use)				
Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs	Not-Started			Start

- b. Elect or Decline: Once the waiver screen is open the user should can select “start” to read each waiver carefully and either **Elect** OR **Decline** the use of each waiver from the dropdown list provided. The Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver requires an additional selection if utilized. The user should read and check “I certify” if electing to use the meal pattern waiver.

Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in Child Nutrition Programs

Effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 for NSLP/ SBP and CACFP only.

What this waiver means: Removes the time requirements between meal services. Requirements at 7CFR 210.10(l), 220.8(l), and 226.20(k) are waived.

I DO wish to elect the use of this waiver.

I decline the use of this waiver.

Pursuant to the COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act and based on the exceptional circumstances of this public health emergency, to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to the novel coronavirus, I am requesting a waiver of the meal service time requirements to support streamlined access to nutritious meals. By opting into this waiver, I agree to provide meals to all participants in a safe and accessible manner while still maintaining program integrity and accountability.

Save

Submit

Close

Please note: A meal pattern waiver must be submitted for EACH instance where the meal pattern requirements could not be met. Requests for meal pattern waivers must be justified based on disruptions of the availability of food products resulting from the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19.

- c. Save and Submit: Once each waiver has been **elect**ed or **decl**ined the user will **Save** and **Submit** the waiver request.

The Nationwide waivers currently available for the 2020-21 school year (through June 30, 2021) are listed below. These waivers apply to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Child and Adult Care Food Program.

1. **Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver:** Ability to waive specific meal pattern requirements, as needed, to support access to nutritious meals when certain foods are not available during this emergency. **Extension 4** extended this waiver through June 30, 2021. This waiver applies to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Child and Adult Care Food Program.
2. **Non-congregate Feeding Waiver:** Ability to serve meals outside of the standard group setting to minimize potential exposure to COVID-19. **Meal Delivery flexibility** falls under this waiver. **Extension 2** extended this waiver through June 30, 2021. This waiver applies to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Child and Adult Care Food Program.

3. **Meal Service Time Flexibility Waiver:** USDA FNS has provided a nationwide waiver to support access to nutritious meals outside of the designated meal periods to minimize potential exposure to COVID-19. This waiver applies to the NSLP, SBP, CACFP. [Extension 2](#) extended this waiver through June 30, 2021. This waiver applies to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Child and Adult Care Food Program.
4. **Parent/Guardian Meal Pickup Waiver:** This waiver allows parents/guardians to pick up meals for their children without the child being present. A documented process for linking parent/guardian to a student must be in place to maintain program integrity. [Extension 2](#) extended this waiver through June 30, 2021. This waiver applies to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Child and Adult Care Food Program.
5. **Offer Versus Serve Flexibility for Senior High Schools:** This flexibility waives the requirement for senior high schools to participate in Offer Versus Serve during the school year 2020-2021. This waiver applies to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).