

COVID-19 Update

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Meal Service during COVID-19 Outbreaks



June 10, 2020

Distributed to CACFP Authorized Representatives and Home Sponsors via Listserv

As posted to www.kn-eat.org, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Updates from CNW

USDA Food and Nutrition Services is extending the following waivers nationwide:

1. COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #26 Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs – Extended through July 31, 2020.

Program regulations require that sponsors follow a prescribed meal pattern. During the public health emergency, sponsors can apply to the state agency for flexibilities in the meal pattern. Under normal emergency feeding, USDA would have to approve these flexibilities; this waiver allows the state agencies to approve requests from sponsors to waive meal pattern requirements. USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has provided nationwide approval for States to locally waive specific meal pattern requirements as needed to support access to nutritious meals when certain foods are not available due to the novel coronavirus. Note: This is not a blanket waiver but to be used due to unavailability of product. Sponsors must submit a waiver request to KSDE and obtain approval prior to utilizing this waiver. To apply for the waiver to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SH2F6FS>.

2. COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #27 Nationwide Waiver of Monitoring Requirements for Sponsors in the Child and Adult Care Food Program – Extended through August 31, 2020.

FNS is waiving specific CACFP onsite monitoring requirements around frequency, number, and nature of onsite reviews for all sponsoring organizations of multiple sites:

- For the current review year, CACFP sponsors must conduct at least two reviews of their CACFP facilities. FNS waives the requirement at 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii) that sponsoring organizations review each CACFP facility three times each year.
- For the current review year, only one CACFP facility review is required to be unannounced. FNS waives the requirement at 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii)(A) that at least two of the three reviews must be unannounced.
- FNS waives the requirement at 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii)(B) that at least one unannounced review must include observation of a meal service.
- FNS waives the requirement at 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii)(D) that not more than six months may elapse between reviews.
- FNS does not waive the requirement at CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii)(C) that at least one review must be made during each new facility's first four weeks of Program operations but allows sponsoring organizations to review new CACFP facilities as a desk audit.

To opt in to elect any or all of the monitoring waivers go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KMPZ5W7>

3. COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #28 Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for State Agencies in the Child and Adult Care Food Program – Extended through August 31.

The KSDE COVID-19 Waivers Summary for Child Nutrition Programs has been updated and can be found at www.kn-eat.org, CACFP, What's New.



New USDA Q&A

Questions and Answers related to Food Service Management Company Contracts and Allowable Costs during the COVID-19 Pandemic (CACFP 12-2020).

This memorandum provides clarification on questions related to the operation of Food Service Management Company contracts, monitoring during Administrative Reviews, and allowable costs and is posted at <https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/QA-FSMC%20Contracts-Allowable-Costs-COVID-19%20.pdf>.

Submitting CACFP Claims in June

Due to the State year-end fiscal close out, CACFP Center claims must be submitted and in approved status in KN-CLAIM by the end of the day on June 15 to be paid in June. Center claims submitted after June 15 will not be processed until July. Home Sponsors must submit Day Care Home Provider claims by 3:00 PM on June 15.

CACFP Halftime: Thirty on Thursday Webinar Series

Join the Team Nutrition Webinar Mealtimes with Toddlers on Thursday, June 18:

- English Webinar: 2:00 to 2:30 PM ET [Register at <https://usda-fns.webex.com/usda-fns/onstage/g.php?MTID=e62c7bf438a648624cf4c9a12bb7bb5dd>]
- Spanish Webinar: 3:00 to 3:30 PM ET [Register at <https://usda-fns.webex.com/usda-fns/onstage/g.php?MTID=e54d834dd3a9aa0a7f1e37074b537fae5>]

This webinar will include practical tips for how CACFP operators can meet meal pattern requirements for children ages 1-2 years while addressing their developmental needs. Topics include helping children learn how to feed themselves, encouraging children to try new foods, serving the right type of milk in the CACFP to different age groups and more. Attendees will have a chance to submit questions to the presenters and check their knowledge through interactive polling questions. Webinars will be recorded and posted on the Team Nutrition website (TeamNutrition.USDA.gov) at a later date. Certificates of participation will be provided for those who attend the entire webinar. For more information, please visit the CACFP Halftime: Thirty on Thursdays webpage at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/halftime-cacfp-thirty-thursdays-training-webinar-series>.

Effective and ongoing communication is a critical component to providing safe and healthy meals to CACFP participants everyday but especially during this time. Please let us know if you have questions at any time. We'll get through this together.

Cheryl, Jill and Julie



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