COVID-19 Update

Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during COVID-19 Outbreaks

March 26, 2020, 2:00 pm

Sent by listserv to SNP Sponsors and SFSP Sponsors and posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What’s New and www.kn-eat.org, Summer Food Service Program, What’s New

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 of this public health emergency, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is establishing additional Nationwide Waivers to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to the novel coronavirus.

New flexibilities announced by USDA Food and Nutrition Services (FNS):

- **Nationwide Meal Pattern Waiver:** 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.

- **Nationwide Parent/Guardian Meal Pickup Waiver:** FNS is allowing States approved for non-congregate feeding to waive the rule preventing parents and guardians from picking up meals for their children, as long as they protect accountability and integrity. Sponsors must submit a waiver request to KSDE and receive approval prior to utilizing this waiver.

- **Nationwide Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Data Waiver:** FNS is extending the deadlines for reporting SY 2019-20 student counts to establish SY 2020-21’s identified student percentage for CEP, as well as for the required LEA and State notifications and CEP election until June 15th.

KSDE will provide information about how to apply for these waivers at 9 AM Friday via ZOOM at https://ksde.zoom.us/j/995241224. These waivers can be implemented once you have applied and received an approval email from KSDE.

Cheryl, Jill and Julie
Kansas State Department of Education
900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212
(785) 296-3201
www.ksde.org

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, KSDE, Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson, Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-3201.