COVID-19 Update

Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during COVID-19 Outbreaks

March 11, 2020

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

Schools participating in School Nutrition Programs and institutions participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program may be dismissed or closed due to Federal, state, or local public health requirements for social distancing due to COVID-19. Under these circumstances, Sponsors of Child Nutrition Programs may continue to serve meals to children affected by school or child care closures through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or the Seamless Summer Option (SSO).

The Kansas State Department of Education has received approval of two waivers from the USDA Food & Nutrition Services (FNS). Specifically, they have waived the requirements to serve meals in a congregate setting and to serve meals at a non-school site for COVID-19 related SFSP or SSO meal service operations.

The waiver of the congregate feeding requirement for approved SSO and SFSP sponsors in good standing was approved through June 30, 2020, or upon expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier. This flexibility allows for approved Sponsors to provide meals to be taken and consumed offsite, to allow for social distancing during the novel coronavirus.

Sponsors are not required to provide meal service during school closures. However, USDA FNS appreciates the willingness of Kansas Sponsors to consider continuing their meal service operations to ensure children receive meals they need during COVID-19 conditions. If you have questions or would like to serve meals during a school closure contact Cheryl Johnson (csjohnson@ksde.org), Jill Ladd (jladd@ksde.org) or Julie Henry (jhenry@ksde.org) for more information.

Additional Resources are posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What’s New.

- COVID-19 and Food Safety
- SP 08-2020, SFSP 04-2020: Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during Novel Coronavirus Outbreaks with Questions & Answers

Please note: USDA FNS plans to update the Question and Answers soon. You will receive updates as they become available via the listserv.

KSDE appreciates your commitment to meet the nutritional needs of children during this challenging time. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Cheryl, Jill and Julie
For more information, contact:

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