

Detailed Memo Summary – Federal and State Waivers and Guidance (COVID-19)

Office of School and Community Nutrition Programs

NSLP: National School Lunch Program, SBP: School Breakfast Program, CACFP: Child and Adult Care Food Program, MK: Special Milk Program, SFSP: Summer Food Service Program

CURRENT WAIVERS					
Waiver Topic	Waiver Summary	Waiver Effective Dates	Programs Included	Relevant Memos	
Non-Congregate Meals	Waives requirement for congregate meals, allowing participants to take meals off site. Agencies must obtain written consent from households before initiating delivery. USDA COVID-19 CNP #2, #22, #33, #44, #54, #61	March 20, 2020 through June 30, 2021	 NSLP/SBP CACFP (all) FCC MK SFSP 	➤ SM 26-20, CA 09-20, FCC 04-20, MK 05-20, SFSP 09-20 — March 24, 2020 ➤ SM 49-20, CA 21-20, FCC 15-20, MK 15-20, SFSP 30-20 — May 18, 2020 ➤ SM 65-20, CA 29-20, FCC 24-20, MK 21-20 — July 2, 2020 ➤ SFSP 45-20 — August 21, 2020 ➤ SFSP 47-20 — September 2, 2020 ➤ SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 — October 13, 2020	

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Waiver Topic	Waiver Summary	Waiver Effective Dates	Programs Included	Relevant Memos	
Meal Service Time Flexibility	Waives the requirement that specific periods elapse between meals, allowing agencies to distribute multiple meals at one time. USDA COVID-19 CNP #1, #17 #23, #34, #50, #66	March 20, 2020 through June 30, 2021	NSL/SBPCACFP (all)FCCMKSFSP	 ➤ SM 27-20, CA 10-20, FCC 05-20, MK 06-20, SFSP 10-20 — March 26, 2020 ➤ SM 49-20, CA 21-20, FCC 15-20, MK 15-20, SFSP 30-20 — May 18, 2020 ➤ SM 65-20, CA 29-20, FCC 24-20, MK 21-20 — July 2, 2020 ➤ SM 43-20, SFSP 27-20 — April 28, 2020 ➤ SFSP 45-20 — August 21, 2020 ➤ SFSP 47-20 — September 2, 2020 ➤ SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 — October 13, 2020 	

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Meal Pattern Flexibility	Allows agencies to deviate from meal pattern requirements, if certain foods are unavailable. Requires prior approval from MSDE . USDA COVID-19 CNP #4, #13, #24, #26, #36, #38, #45, #53, #63, #70	Effective once approved by MSDE through June 30, 2021	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	 SM 29-20, CA 12-20, FCC 07-20, MK 08-20, SFSP 12-20 - March 30, 2020 SM 40-20, CA 19-20, FCC 13-20, MK 12-30, SFSP 23-30 - April 23, 2020 SM 49-20, CA 21-20, FCC 15-20, MK 15-20, SFSP 30-20 - May 18, 2020 SM 65-20, CA 29-20, FCC 24-20, MK 21-20 - July 2, 2020 SM 60-20, CA 27-20, FCC 21-20, MK 19-20, SFSP 38-20 - June 11, 2020 SFSP 43-20 - August 4, 2020 SFSP 45-20 - August 21, 2020 SFSP 47-20 - September 2, 2020 SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 - October 13, 2020 	

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Parent and Guardian Pick Up of Meals	Allows parents and guardians to pick up meals on behalf of their children. Also includes guardians picking up food on behalf of adult participants in the CACFP. Requires prior approval from MSDE. USDA COVID-19 CNP #5, #25, #35, #47, #55, #62	Effective once approved by MSDE through June 30, 2021	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	 ➤ SM 30-20, CA 13-20, FCC 08-20, MK 09-20, SFSP 13-20 — March 28, 2020 ➤ SM 49-20, CA 21-20, FCC 15-20, MK 15-20, SFSP 30-20 — May 18, 2020 ➤ SM 65-20, CA 29-20, FCC 24-20, MK 21-20 — July 2, 2020 ➤ SFSP 45-20 — August 21, 2020 ➤ SFSP 47-20 — September 2, 2020 ➤ SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 — October 13, 2020 	
Monitoring – CNP Agencies	Waives certain onsite monitoring requirements, allows sponsoring organizations to conduct reviews off site. Also reduces the number of onsite reviews sponsoring organizations are required to conduct. USDA COVID-19 CNP #7, #9, #10, #20, #27, #29, #30, #39, #41, #42	March 25, 2020 through June 30, 2021 (for NSLP/SBP) March 25, 2020 through September 30, 2021 (for CACFP, FCC, and SFSP)	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	 SM 32-20, CA 14-20, FCC 09-20, SFSP 15-20 – April 2, 2020 SM 60-20, CA 27-20, FCC 21-20, MK 19-20, SFSP 38-20 – June 11, 2020 SM 70-20, CA 32-20, FCC 27-20, MK 23-20, SFSP 44-20 – August 10, 2020 	

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Waiver Topic	Waiver Summary	Waiver Effective Dates	Programs Included	Relevant Memos		
Monitoring - MSDE	Allows MSDE to conduct reviews off site. USDA COVID-19 CNP #8, #9, #11 #28, #29, #31, #40, #41, #43	March 25, 2020 through June 30, 2021 (for NSLP/SBP) March 25, 2020 through September 30, 2021 (for CACFP, FCC, and SFSP)	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	 SM 32-20, CA 14-20, FCC 09-20, SFSP 15-20 – April 2, 2020 SM 60-20, CA 27-20, FCC 21-20, MK 19-20, SFSP 38-20 – June 11, 2020 SM 70-20, CA 32-20, FCC 27-20, MK 23-20, SFSP 44-20 – August 10, 2020 		
Area Eligibility on the Summer Food Service Program	Due to increased unemployment claims, allows all site locations to qualify as area eligible open sites. State Waiver Extensions - USDA COVID-19 CNP #32, #46, #52, #60	March 18, 2020 through April 2, 2020 (30% eligibility) April 2, 2020 through June 30, 2021	• SFSP	> SFSP 13-20 – March 20, 2020 > SFSP 16-20 – April 2, 2020 > SFSP 28-20 - June 11, 2020 > SFSP 47-20 – September 2, 2020 > SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 – October 13, 2020		
Offer versus Serve in the SFSP	Extends the allowable to use offer versus serve (OVS) to all SFSP sponsors, not just LEAs using the NSLP meal pattern. USDA COVID-19 CNP #16, #51, #67	April 21, 2020 through June 30, 2021	• SFSP	➤ SFSP 25-20 April 27, 2020 ➤ SFSP 47-20 — September 2, 2020 ➤ SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 — October 13, 2020		

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Waiver Topic	Waiver Summary	Waiver Effective Dates	Programs Included	Relevant Memos		
First Week Visit Requirements in SFSP	Waives the requirement that SFSP sponsors visit all site in the first week of operation. Applies to sites that have operated successfully in the previous year and sponsors that participate in the CACFP or NSLP. USDA COVID-19 CNP #15, #49, #65	April 21, 2020 through June 30, 2021	• SFSP	➤ SFSP 26-20 – April 27, 2020 ➤ SFSP 47-20 – September 2, 2020 ➤ SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 – October 13, 2020		
Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites	Waives the requirement that closed enrolled summer sites collect meal benefit application. Instead, sites may use area eligibility. USDA COVID-19 CNP #14, #48, #64	April 21, 2020 through June 30, 2021	• SFSP	➤ SFSP 32-20, SM 54-20 – June 5, 2020 ➤ SFSP 47-20 – September 2, 2020 ➤ SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 – October 13, 2020		
Summer Food Service Operations	Allows SFSP operations to continue through the school year USDA COVID-19 CNP #56, #59	Start of the school year through June 30, 2021	• SFSP	➤ SFSP 47-20 – September 2, 2020 ➤ SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 – October 13, 2020		
Triennial Assessment	Extends the deadline for the triennial assessment of wellness policies to June 30, 2021 for LEAs unable to complete the assessment by June 30, 2020. USDA COVID-19 CNP #18	June 30, 2021	NSLP/SBP	➤ SM 44- 20 – April 29, 2020		

	CURRENT WAIVERS					
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		May 12, 2020				
Fresh Fruit and	Allows sites approved to operate the Fresh	through June 30,				
Vegetable	Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) to	2020	• FFVP	> CAA 47 20 AA 42 2020		
Program (FFVP)	provide the produce to parents or			➤ SM 47-20 – May 12, 2020 ➤ SM 77-20 – September 15, 2020		
Parent or	guardians, even if their children are not	September 22, 2020		2 3 101 77-20 — September 15, 2020		
Guardian Pick Up	present. Requires MSDE approval.	through June 30,				
		2021				
	Waives the requirement that high schools					
Offer versus Serve	serve meals using offer versus serve,					
In the National	allowing delivery or pick up of complete	July 1, 2020 through				
School Lunch	meals.	June 30, 2021	NSLP/SBP	> SM 64-20 – June 20, 2020		
Program						
	USDA COVID-19 CNP #37					
	Waives the requirement that LEAs					
Five Year Review	operating the NSLP and SBP be reviewed at	July 1 2020 through				
Cycle	least once during a three-year review cycle,	June 30, 2024	NSLP/SBP	➤ SM 68-20 – July 20, 2020		
Сусіе	allowing MSDE to move to a 5-year review	Julie 30, 2024				
	cycle					
	Allows MSDE to reimburse sponsors for					
Daimahaanaant	meals served prior to notification of					
Reimbursement	approval. This waiver is retroactive for			> SM 76-20, SFSP 49-20 – September		
for Meals Served	approved SFSP sponsors for meals served	August 31, 2020		15, 2020		
Prior to Approval	through August 30, 2020, but that were	through June 30,	SFSP	➤ SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21,		
in the Summer	served prior to their written approval to	2021		MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 – October		
Food Service	operate the SFSP.			13, 2020		
Program						
	USDA COVID-19 CNP #57, #69					

CURRENT WAIVERS					
Waiver Topic	Waiver Summary	Waiver Effective Dates	Programs Included	Relevant Memos	
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable (FFVP) pick-up at non- elementary schools	Allows districts to designate an alternate site if a selected FFVP site is not open for meal service.	September 22, 2020 through June 30, 2021	• FFVP	➤ SM 78-20 — September 16, 2020	
Expanded Eligibility in the At-Risk Afterschool Program	Allows participating agencies, regardless of their site locations, to serve at-risk afterschool meals and snacks to children after the regular school day. USDA COVID-19 CNP #58, #68	September 18, 2020 through June 30, 2021	• CACFP – At Risk	➤ SM 79-20, SFSP 50-20, CA 36-20, FCC 31-20, MK 24-20 — September 23, 2020 ➤ SM 85-20, SFSP 51-20, CA 39-20, FCC 32-20, MK 25-20 - October 8, 2020 ➤ SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21 — October 13, 2020	

	EXPIRED WAIVERS					
Waiver Topic	Waiver Summary	Waiver Effective Dates		Programs Included	Relevant Memos	
Waiver of Activity Requirement in Afterschool Care Child Nutrition Programs	Allows schools proving afterschool meals through NSLP and agencies participating in the At-Risk Afterschool Meal Program to serve meals and snacks when no enrichment activity is offered. USDA COVID-19 CNP #3	March 20, 2020 through June 30, 2020	•	SM CACFP – At Risk	➤ SM 28-20, CA 11-20, FCC 06-20, MK 07-20, SFSP 11-20 March 25, 2020	
Flexibility in the Administrative Review Process	Allows MSDE to complete the onsite portion of the administrative review in a different school year than the off-site portion. Revision of USDA COVID-19 CNP #9	March 25, 2020 through August 31, 2020	•	NSLP/SBP	➤ SM 59-20 – June 12, 2020	
Waiver of 60 Day Reporting Requirements	Extends the deadline for the submission of January and February 2020 claims by 30 days. USDA COVID-19 CNP #12	April 1, 2020 through May 30, 2020	•	NSLP/SBP CACFP (all) FCC MK SFSP	➤ SM 33-20, CA 15-20, FCC 10-20, MK 10-20, SFSP 17-20 - April 3, 2020	
Unanticipated School Closures	Extends SFSP and SSO pandemic operations to June 30, 2020. USDA COVID-19 CNP #21	April 27, 2020 through June 30, 2020	•	SFSP	➤ SM 46-20, SFSP 29-20 — April 29, 2020	

	EXPIRED WAIVERS					
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CEP Deadlines	Extends deadline for determining the identified student percentage (ISP) for LEAs electing the CEP. Counts of identified and enrolled students may be calculated using data from any date from April 1, 2020 and June 30, 2020. LEAs must notify MSDE if they are electing CEP by August 31, 2020. USDA COVID-19 CNP #6	ISP data: June 30, 2020 CEP Election: August 21, 2020	NSLP/SBP	➤ SM 31-20 – March 30, 2020		
USDA Foods Entitlement	USDA Foods entitlement for SY 2020-2021 will be calculated using the SY 2018-2019 lunch counts, due the decrease in lunches served under NSLP in SY 2019-2020 because of unanticipated school closures.		NSLP/SBP	➤ SM 62-20 – June 30, 2020		
Food Service Management Contracts	Allows renewal of procurement contracts with food service management companies that would otherwise not be eligible for an extension. Contracts must still be approved in MARS prior to their start date. USDA COVID-19 CNP #19	April 24, 2020 through September 30, 2020	NSLP/SBPSFSP	> SM 45-20, SFSF 28-20 – April 29, 2020		

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS				
Topic	Summary	Programs Included	Memo Number	
SFSP Meal Delivery	Allows schools serving meals through the SFSP to deliver meals to students' homes. Schools must obtain written consent from households before initiating delivery.	• SFSP	SM 25-20, SFSP 08-20 – March 20, 2020	
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	Provides guidance on operating the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) during school closures due to COVID-19.	• FFVP	SM 35-20 - A pril 10, 2020	
Meal Service during Novel Coronavirus Outbreaks	Provides guidance on several aspects of meal service during the current public health emergency. This memo provides clarifications, but does not include additional waivers.	 NSLP/SBP CACFP (all) FCC MK SFSP 	SM 37-20, CA 16-20, FCC 11-20, MK 11- 20, SFSP 19-20 - April 13, 2020	
Nationwide Waivers	Provides answers to questions about previously released waivers regarding meal times, noncongregate feeding, and activities during afterschool care programs.	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	SM 36-20, CA 17-20, FCC 12-20, MK 12- 20, SFSP 20-20 - April 13, 2020	
P-EBT	Provides answers to common questions about P-EBT including questions about data sharing.	• SM	SM 39-20, SFSP 22-20 - April 17, 2020	
Meal Service during Novel Coronavirus Outbreaks	Provides answers to questions about meal service during the novel coronavirus outbreak, focusing on CACFP and civil rights	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	SM 42-20, CA 20-20, FCC 14-20, MK 14- 20, SFSP 24-20 - April 27, 2020	
FFVP	Provides guidance on operating the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) during school closures due to COVID-19.	• FFVP	SM 50-20 – May 26, 2020	

	QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS					
Topic	Summary	Programs Included	Memo Number			
Summer Food Service Program	Provides answers to questions about four national waivers related to the Summer Food Service Program.	• SFSP	SM 55-20, CA 23-20, FCC 17-20, MK 17- 20, SFSP 33-20 - June 5, 2020			
Unanticipated School Closures	Provides answers to questions about unanticipated school closure operations through June 30, 2020.	• SFSP • CACFP – At Risk	SM 56-20, CA 24-20, FCC 18-20, SFPS 34- 20 - June 5, 2020			
Summer Food Service Program	Provides answers to questions relating to four nationwide waivers announced in memos: SFSP 32-20, SM 54-20 SFSP 26-20 SFSP 25-20 SM 43-20, SFSP 27-20	• SFSP	SM 55-20, CA 23-20, FCC 17-20, MK 17- 20, SFSP 33-20 - June 5, 2020			
Food Service Management Contracts	Provides additional guidance about food service management contract and allowable costs during the COVID 19 pandemic.	• SM • SFSP	SM 58-20, CA 26-20, FCC 20-20, SFSP 36- 20 - June 11, 2020			
Child Nutrition Programs during School Year 2020-2021	Provides guidance for participants in Child Nutrition Programs during the transition to the 20-21 school year.	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	SM 73-20, CA 34-20, FCC 29-20, SFSP 46- 20 - August 24, 2020			
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	Provides guidance for schools participating in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) during school year 20-21.	• FFVP	SM 74-20 – August 25, 2020			

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS					
Topic	Summary	Programs Included	Memo Number		
Summer Food Service Program Operations Through December 2020	Provides answers to many of the questions related to Child Nutrition Program operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	SM 75-20, CA 35-20, FCC 30-20, SFSP 48- 20 – September 14, 2020		
Nationwide Waiver to Allow Summer Food Service Program Operations through School Year 2020-2021	Provides answers about the extension of SFSP and pandemic operations through the end of the 2020-2021 school year.	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	SM 87-21, CA 40-21, FCC 33-21, MK 27- 21, SFSP 53-21 – October 15, 2020		
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Operations for SY 2020-21 during COVID-19	Provides additional guidance for schools participating in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program during school year 20-21.	• FFVP	SM 08-21 – October 27, 2020		
Summer Food Service Program Operations School Year 2020-2021	Provides additional guidance about the extension of SFSP and pandemic operations through the end of the 2020-2021 school year.	NSLP/SBPCACFP (all)FCCSFSP	SM 12-21, CA 07-21, FCC 05-21, SFSP 06- 21, MK 05-21 – November 19, 2020		
Pandemic EBT	Provides answers to questions about the P-EBT extension.	NSLP/SBP	SM 13-21 Questions and Answers – Pandemic EBT Extension - November 20,2021		

Subject	Date Submitted	Status	Memo Number
Non-congregate feeding in SFSP	March 9, 2020	Nationwide waiver issued	SM 26-20, CA 09-20, FCC 04-20, MK 05-20, SFSP 09-20, Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs
	Extension through June	Nationwide waiver	SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21,
	30, 2021 requested on	extension through June	Extensions: Nationwide Waivers for Child Nutrition Programs
	August 20, 2020	30, 2021	.
Non-congregate feeding in CACFP	March 13, 2020	Nationwide waiver issued	SM 26-20, CA 09-20, FCC 04-20, MK 05-20, SFSP 09-20, Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs
Meal number and type waiver in SFSP	March 14, 2020	Denied June 15, 2020	
Expansion of area eligibility in SFSP	March 18, 2020, updated March 29, 2020 Extended on June 10, 2020	Approved	SFSP 16-20, Updated - Area Eligibility in the Summer Food Service Program during Temporary School Closures related to COVID-19
	Extension through June 30, 2021 requested on August 20, 2020	Nationwide waiver extension through June 30, 2021	SFSP 29-20, Extension – Area Eligibility Waiver in the Summer Food Service Program
Meal pattern flexibility	March 20, 2020	Nationwide waiver issued	SM 29-20, CA 12-20, FCC 07-20, MK 08-20, SFSP 12-20, Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs
Parent pick-up of meals	March 24, 2020	Nationwide waiver issued	SM 30-20, CA 13-20, FCC 08-20, MK 09-20, SFSP 13-20, Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Participants
	Extension for SFSP requested August 20, 2020	Nationwide waiver extension through June 30, 2021	SM 06-21, CA 02-21, FCC 02-21, MK 02-21, SFSP 02-21, Extensions: Nationwide Waivers for Child Nutrition Programs

MSDE Waiver Requests				
Subject	Date Submitted	Status	Memo Number	
Parent pick-up of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable (FFVP) portions	May 8, 2020	Approved	SM 47-20, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program – Parent or Guardian Pick-up	
	New request for school year 2020-2021 submitted August 19, 2020	Approved	SM 77-20: Parent and Guardian Pick-Up Waiver for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	
Extension of CACFP At- Risk meals to August 31, 2020	June 16, 2020	Denied, July 1, 2020		
5-year administrative review cycle	June 23, 2020	Approved July 14, 2020	SM 68-20 State Waiver – Five Year Administrative Review Cycle	
Potable water in the School Meals Programs	July 22, 2020	Pending		
Professional standards	July 28, 2020	Denied, August 20, 2020		
Meal pattern flexibility extension for SFSP	July 28, 2020	National waiver issued	SFSP 43-20, Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Summer Food Service Program – EXTENSION TO AUGUST 31	
Activity waiver for the At- Risk Afterschool Program	August 5, 2020	Withdrawn, December 22, 2020	At-Risk Afterschool Program Requirements clarified in SM 73- 20, CA 34-20, FCC 29-20, SFSP 46-20, Questions and Answers for Child Nutrition Programs During School Year 2020-2021	
Age/grade group waiver for School Meals Programs	August 13, 2020	Withdrawn, covered under CNP waiver #36	SM 73-20, CA 34-20, FCC 29-20, SFSP 46-20, Questions and Answers for the Child Nutrition Programs during School Year 2020-2021	
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable (FFVP) pick-up at non-elementary schools	August 19, 2020	Approved	SM 78-20: Non-Elementary School Site Waiver for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	