

Summary of COVID-19 Child Nutrition Program Response Nationwide Waivers & Memos

This resource briefly describes all nationwide waivers and guidance memoranda released by the USDA in response to the coronavirus. Due to the number of extensions, this resource begins with waivers listed by expiration date; the waiver name links to description of the latest version. Next, the table lists waivers and memoranda in order of number and release date. The waiver or memo number in the table links to the USDA landing page for the waiver.

This was last updated on 1/13/2021.

See the [USDA FNS website](#) for all nationwide waivers and [guidance memoranda](#). See the end of this document for a glossary of acronyms and terms.

State agencies are eligible to use all nationwide waivers without application, but they must still elect to be subject to the waiver by notifying their USDA Regional Office. These waivers do **not** apply to all operators automatically -- state agencies must opt in and provide information to operators before operators can implement the waiver. Please contact your state agency for more information about these and other state-requested waivers.

For each waiver, a report must be made within a year summarizing its use by the state and operators and whether it improved services to beneficiaries.

Summer Meals Waivers in Effect Until June 30, 2021

- [Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through School Year 2020-2021](#) (#56 & #59)
- [Allow Reimbursement for Meals Served Prior to Notification of Approval and Provide Flexibility for Pre-Approval Visits in the SFSP](#) (#57 & #69)
- [Non-congregate Feeding in the SFSP & SSO](#) (#2, #24, #44, #54, & #61)
- [Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children](#) (#5, #25, #47, #55, & #62)
- [Meal Service Time Flexibilities in the SFSP and SSO](#) (#17, #50, & #66)
- [Meal Pattern Flexibility in the SFSP & SSO](#) (#4, #13, #24, #26, #38, #45, #53, & #63)
- [Area Eligibility Waiver Extensions](#) (#32, #46, #52, & #60)
- [Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites in the SFSP and NSLP SSO](#) (#14, #48, & #64)
- [Waiver of the First Week Site Visit Requirement in the SFSP](#) (#15, #49, & #65)
- [Offer Versus Serve Flexibilities in the SFSP](#) (#16, #51, & #67)

Waivers in Effect for CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Until June 30, 2021

- [Area Eligibility](#) (#58 & #68)

Waivers in Effect for NSLP, SBP, and CACFP Until June 30, 2021

- [Non-congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs](#) (#2, #24 & #33)
- [Meal Service Time Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs](#) (#1 & #17 & #34)
- [Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children](#) (#5 & #25 & #35)
- [Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs](#) (#4, #13, #24, #26, #36 & #70)
- [Offer Versus Serve Flexibility for Senior High Schools in the NSLP](#) (#37)
- [Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements in the School Meals Programs](#) (#9, #29 & #41)

Waivers in Effect Until September 30, 2021

- [Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for CACFP Sponsors \(#7 & #27](#) were broader; [#39](#) only waives the onsite requirement)
- [Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for CACFP State Agencies \(#8, #28 & #40\)](#)
- [Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for SFSP Sponsors \(#10, #30 & #42\)](#)
- [Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for SFSP State Agencies \(#11, #31 & #43\)](#)

Guidance Memoranda and Q&As

- [COVID-19 SFSP and SSO Meal Delivery Using Existing Authority \(3/9/20\)](#)
- [Questions and Answers Related to the Child Nutrition Program Monitoring and Reporting Nationwide Waivers \(4/9/20\)](#)
- [Child Nutrition Program Nationwide Waivers: Questions and Answers \(4/11/20\)](#)
- [Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during Novel Coronavirus Outbreaks: Questions and Answers #3 \(4/11/20\)](#)
- [Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during Novel Coronavirus Outbreaks: Questions and Answers #4 \(4/21/20\)](#)
- [SFSP and SSO Nationwide Waivers – Questions and Answers \(5/19/20\)](#)
- [Questions and Answers on the Nationwide Waiver to Extend Unanticipated School Closure Operations through June 30, 2020 \(5/29/20\)](#)
- [Answers Related to FSMC Contract Extensions and Allowable Costs During the Pandemic \(6/3/20\)](#)
- [Questions and Answers for the Child Nutrition Programs during School Year 2020-21 #5 \(8/21/20\)](#)
- [Questions and Answers Relating to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through December 2020 \(9/11/20\)](#)
- [Questions and Answers Relating to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through SY 2020-2021 – EXTENSION – #2 \(10/14/20\)](#)
- [Questions and Answers Relating to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through SY 2020-2021 – Q&As #3 \(11/2/20\)](#)
- [Questions and Answers Relating to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through SY 2020-2021 – Q&As #4 \(1/5/21\)](#)
- [Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program During COVID-19 \(4/9/20\)](#)
- [FFVP During COVID-19: Questions & Answers #2 \(4/19/20\)](#)
- [Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Operations for SY 2020-2021 During COVID-19 \(8/21/20\)](#)
- [Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Operations for SY 2020-2021 during COVID-19 \(10/23/20\)](#)

Deadline & Deadline Extension Waivers

- [Waiver of Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\) Deadlines \(#6\)](#)
- [Waiver of 60 Day Reporting Requirements for January and February 2020 \(#12\)](#)
- [Deadline Extension for Local School Wellness Policy Triennial Assessments in the NSLP and SBP \(#18\)](#)
- [FFCRA Opt-In Waiver for SY2020- 2021 NSLP USDA Foods Entitlement Calculations](#)

Expired Waivers

- [Waiver of the Activity Requirement in Afterschool Care Child Nutrition Programs \(#3\)](#) (expired 6/30/20)
- [Extend Unanticipated School Closure Operations through June 30, 2020 \(#21\)](#) (expired 6/30/20)
- [Food Service Management Contract Duration in the NSLP and SFSP \(#19\)](#) (expired 9/30/20)
- [Waiver of Annual Review Requirements for State Agencies in the CACFP \(#20\)](#) (expired 9/30/20)

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #1	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	March 20, 2020	June 30, 2020 <i>Extended to June 2021</i> (NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides flexibility for serving times. Allows for serving multiple meals for the same day at one time. With further clarification, this includes meals for multiple days at the same time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must still establish meal service times or delivery times.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #2	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	March 20, 2020	June 30, 2020 <i>Extended to June 2021</i> (NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits consumption of meals off-site and outside of group settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows for serving models like grab-n-go, curbside pick-up, mobile/bus routes, and home delivery.
N/A (Q&A)	COVID-19 SFSP and SSO Meal Delivery Using Existing Authority	SFSP & SSO		N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets guidelines & restrictions around home delivery Clarifies that meals can be served through SFSP/SSO during spring break if break is postponed or cancelled. Q&A memo SP 14-2020 updated this to allow summer meals during any break regardless. Clarifies that NSLP/SBP can be used during distance learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents must consent in writing and verify address before delivery starts. Children not need to be present for delivery; no one needs to be present for delivery of shelf-stable food. See the Q&A on the Extension of Unanticipated School Closure Operations for guidance on who can operate home deliveries.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #3	Nationwide Waiver of the Activity Requirement in Afterschool Care Child Nutrition Programs	NSLP Afterschool Snacks & CACFP At-Risk Afterschool	March 20, 2020	June 30, 2020 EXPIRED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates need for supervised enrichment programming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows CACFP At-Risk Afterschool sites to function similar to SFSP open sites.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #4	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	March 25, 2020	April 30, 2020 <i>Extended to June 2021</i> (NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis. USDA instructs states to consider if the request is due to supply issues.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #5	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	March 25, 2020	June 30, 2020 <i>Extended to June 2021 (NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the requirement that meals are served directly to the eligible child. • Allows parents or guardians to pick up meals for their child. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States need to ensure integrity and are instructed to work with operators on ways to verify adults have eligible children and ensure that duplicate meals are not served.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #6	Nationwide Waiver of Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Deadlines	NLSP & SBP	March 25, 2020	August 31, 2020 EXPIRED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends deadlines for various tasks within the CEP data release and election process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISPs may be calculated based on data drawn through June 30, 2020 • Deadline to declare intent to elect CEP is now August 31, 2020.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #7	Nationwide Waiver of Monitoring Requirements for CACFP Sponsors	CACFP	March 27, 2020	June 30, 2020 <i>Extended to Sept. 2021</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows sponsors to monitor facilities two times (instead of three) this fiscal year, and only one must be unannounced. • Waives the requirement for at least one unannounced review to include the observation of a meal service. • Waives the requirement that no more than six months elapse between reviews. • Allows new facility reviews to be done by desk audit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available to sponsors that elect to be subject to the waiver; it is our understanding that sponsors do not need their state to opt-in for them. • New facility reviews must still be done within the facility's first four weeks of operation.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #8	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for CACFP State Agencies	CACFP	March 27, 2020	June 30, 2020 <i>Extended to Sept. 2021</i> <i>Other flexibilities through Sept. 2020</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the in-person component of the state agency's required monitoring activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #9	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements in the School Meals Programs	NSLP, SBP, SSO	March 27, 2020	June 30, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the in-person component of the state agency's and SFA's required monitoring activities. • Allows states to postpone required reviews of SFAs that are closed and request an extension on their review cycle. 	
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #10	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for SFSP Sponsoring Organizations	SFSP	March 27, 2020	June 30, 2020 Extended to Sept. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the requirement for an in-person site visit during the first week of a site's operation and the review of the site's food service within the first four weeks of operation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsors must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits. • For sites that will operate during summer 2020, sponsors can postpone visits until then.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #11	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for SFSP State Agencies	SFSP	March 27, 2020	June 30, 2020 Extended to Sept. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the in-person component of the state agency's required monitoring activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits. • For sponsors that will operate during summer 2020, states can postpone visits until then. • Reminds states that pre-operational visits may be waived for sponsors operating during school closures and that SFSP reviews are not required in the same year as a satisfactory NSLP review as long as the same person runs both programs.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #12	Nationwide Waiver of 60 Day Reporting Requirements for January and February 2020	All: NSLP, SBP, SFSP, SSO, CACFP, SMP	April 1, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends the deadline to submit claims for reimbursement for January 2020 and February 2020 by 30 days each. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This now allows 90 days rather than 60 days for submission of reports. • States and operators are encouraged to meet the original deadline wherever possible.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
CACFP 06, SFSP 05, SP 11-2020	Questions and Answers Related to the Child Nutrition Program Monitoring and Reporting Nationwide Waivers	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	April 9, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarifies COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response waivers #7-#12, including what elements of reviews can be done off-site and ways to assess elements usually observed on site. Provides guidance on CACFP attendance records. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per #7, program operators in states that elect to use these waivers are not required to submit individual waiver requests but advance notification may be required. State agencies may approve new SFSP and CACFP sponsors through off-site pre-approval visits.
SP 12-2020	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program During COVID-19	FFVP	April 9, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarifies that participating schools may serve fresh produce through FFVP in a non-congregate setting. Clarifies that produce may be served outside the typical school day, at whatever time works best, including alongside other meals being distributed. This guidance applies to produce already in stock as well as produce ordered for distribution during closures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No waiver is required for non-congregate service outside of the school day or alongside other meals. FFVP produce may not be given to parents without their child present. Produce may be distributed to children even if they are not enrolled at the participating school. Produce may be distributed for up to a week at a time. Nutrition education is not required. FFVP produce may not be used as meal components.
SP 13-2020	Child Nutrition Program Nationwide Waivers: Questions and Answers	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	April 11, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides clarification on waivers #1-#3, including how states elect to be subject to the waiver as well as record keeping and reporting. Clarifies that CACFP operators may distribute meals for more than one day at a time. Allows operators to serve items in bulk if there are instructions on portions and the items can be easily separated into meals with minimal preparation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per #7, program operators in states that elect to use these three waivers are not required to submit individual waiver requests, but advance notification may be required. Confirms that meals may only be distributed at sites approved by the state agency. Confirms that aside from SFSP and SSO open sites and CACFP At-Risk sites, operators may only serve enrolled participants and claim meals at the appropriate rates.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
SP 14-2020	Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during Novel Coronavirus Outbreaks: Questions and Answers #3	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	April 11, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides clarification on various elements of program operations. Clarifies that the requirement for SFSP camp sites to provide programming is still in effect, but camp sites with appropriate safety measures may be approved to operate and serve non-congregate meals. Clarifies that advance funds may be paid to SFSP or SSO operators serving meals during unanticipated closures. Clarifies that all SFSP and SSO operators may, with state agency approval, serve meals during weekends, holidays, and breaks within the year (like spring break) without needing a waiver from the USDA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes that state agencies may approve operators to serve alternate forms of milk and may approve SSO operators to only serve one type of milk (instead of a variety) without needing a waiver from the USDA. Provides guidelines for home delivery through the CACFP, similar to guidelines offered for home delivery through SFSP or SSO. Confirms that school food authorities and sponsors approved to operate CACFP At-Risk as well as SFSP or SSO may operate both concurrently, at the same or different sites, as long as different meals are served through each program and daily meals per child maximums in each program are followed. Notes that states are still expected to provide public notification of all sites and to make accommodations who have limited English proficiency, need language assistance, or have other special needs.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #13	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs – EXTENSION	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	April 21, 2020	May 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021 (NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis. USDA instructs states to consider if the request is due to supply issues. Elections and approvals under COVID-19 #4 may continue without further action.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #14	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites in the SFSP and SSO	SSO, SFSP	April 21, 2020	September 30, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows closed enrolled sites to determine site eligibility through area eligibility (instead of collecting income eligibility applications). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These flexibilities do <i>not</i> end as soon as the public health emergency ends. State agencies that have already individual requested and received traditional SFSP waivers may elect to be covered by these nationwide waivers during the COVID-19 emergency, in place of their traditional waivers. FNS will continue to process requests that have been submitted for the traditional SFSP waivers for summer 2020. Approvals of the traditional waivers will be effective beginning October 1, 2020. The traditional SFSP waivers will remain in effect through April 30, 2022, or until FNS publishes a final regulation that supersedes the approval, whichever comes first. Therefore, there is no need for State agencies to withdraw those requests or resubmit a request.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #15	Nationwide Waiver of First Week Site Visits in the SFSP	SFSP	April 21, 2020	September 30, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the requirement that SFSP sponsors visit each of their sites at least once during their first week of operation. Waiver applies to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites that successfully operated SFSP the previous year. SFSP sponsors in good standing that successfully participate in the CACFP or the NSLP. 	
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #16	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer Versus Serve Flexibilities in the SFSP	SFSP	April 21, 2020	September 30, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the limitation on the use of Offer versus Serve (OVS) to SFAs. Allows the use of OVS by both non-SFA and SFA sponsors in good standing. Provides details of SFSP OVS meal service parameters. 	
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #17	Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restrictions in the SFSP and SSO	SSO, SFSP	April 21, 2020 <i>Effective July 1</i>	September 30, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives Federal rules on the amount of time that must elapse between the beginning of one meal and the beginning of the next, and the duration of a meal service. Waives meal service time parameters for SSO. Sponsors are still required to establish meal service times for each site. 	

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
CACFP 09, SFSP 08, SP15-2020	Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during Novel Coronavirus Outbreaks: Questions and Answers #4	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	April 21, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows Head Start programs to deliver meals to enrolled children previously receiving CACFP or NSLP meals. Confirms that new sites may be approved if all aspects of the process are completed; pre-approval reviews may be off-site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CACFP sites that have closed may operate as SFSP sites under an SFSP sponsor with state approval. CACFP sites that are still open may also be approved as SFSP sites under an approved SFSP sponsor if they serve a separate group of kids. The non-discrimination statement must still appear on informational materials. Operators must still make meal accommodations for participants with disabilities.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #18	Nationwide Waiver of Local School Wellness Policy Triennial Assessments in the NSLP and SBP	NSLP, SBP	April 23, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extends the deadline to complete the triennial assessment of compliance with school wellness policies from June 30, 2020 to June 30, 2021. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In states that elect to be subject to this waiver, LEAs taking advantage of the new deadline must notify their state agency by June 30, 2020. LEAs that take advantage of the new deadline, the next triennial assessment of compliance must be completed by June 30, 2024.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #19	Nationwide Waiver of Food Service Management Contract Duration in the NSLP and SFSP	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP	April 24, 2020	September 30, 2020 EXPIRED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives FSMC contract duration and extension limits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows FSMC contracts that may expire on or around June 30, 2020 to be extended through SY2020-2021 (to June 30, 2021) using emergency non-competitive procurement. Contracts negotiated or extended through emergency procurement may not be renewed.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #20	Nationwide Waiver of Annual Review Requirements for State Agencies in the CACFP	CACFP	April 24, 2020	September 30, 2020 EXPIRED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives all CACFP monitoring requirements for state agencies included in Section 17(d)(2)(C) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and in the regulations at 7 CFR 226.6(m)(6) and 226.6(m)(6)(i) through (ii). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This broadens COVID-19 #8 in recognition of closures and other barriers to completing required administrative reviews. • USDA encourages states to prioritize next year the institutions scheduled to be reviewed this year. • States must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #21	Nationwide Waiver to Extend Unanticipated School Closure Operations through June 30, 2020	SSO, SFSP <i>(later clarified to apply to CACFP At-Risk)</i>	April 27, 2020	June 30, 2020 EXPIRED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the limit on unanticipated school closure operations to October through April, allowing operators to continue current operations through June 30, 2020. • Waives the federal application deadline of June 15, 2020 for SFSP and SSO operators. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operators may continue current operations regardless of school closure status. • States and operators may resume usual SFSP or SSO operations before June 30, 2020. • States may set their own application deadline.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #22	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs - EXTENSION	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	May 14, 2020	August 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021 <i>(NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permits consumption of meals off-site and outside of group settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for serving models like grab-n-go, curbside pick-up, mobile/bus routes, and home delivery.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #23	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in the NSLP, SBP, and CACFP	NSLP, SBP, CACFP	May 14, 2020	August 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021 <i>(NSLP, SBP, CACFP)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for distribution of multiple meals at the same time, including meals for more than one day at a time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends COVID-19 #1. • SFSP and SSO meal service time flexibility was extended to September 30, 2020 through COVID-19 #17. • Operators must still establish service or delivery times. • This flexibility does <i>not</i> end when the public health emergency ends.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #24	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs – EXTENSION 2	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	May 14, 2020	June 30, 2020 <i>Extended to June 2021</i> (NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis. USDA instructs states to consider if the request is due to supply issues. Elections and approvals under COVID-19 #4 or #13 may continue without further action. Available to operators transitioning from unanticipated school closure to traditional summer operations prior to expiration date.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #25	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children – EXTENSION	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	May 14, 2020	August 31, 2020 <i>Extended to June 2021</i> (NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows parents or guardians to pick up meals for their child. Allows for distributing meals to a guardian of an adult participant in the CACFP without the participant present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States need to ensure integrity and are instructed to work with operators on ways to verify adults have eligible children or adult participants and ensure that duplicate meals are not served.
SP 18, SFSP 10-2020	SFSP and SSO Nationwide Waivers – Questions and Answers	SSO, SFSP	May 19, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides clarification and guidance related to nationwide waivers COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #14 to #17. Confirms that operators may request waivers if their state agency does not opt in to the nationwide waiver or request its own statewide waiver. Allows OVS for non-congregate SFSP meals if sites implement it safely and correctly. Confirms that the meal service time waiver, combined with the non-congregate waiver, allows for multiple meals to be distributed at the same time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camps may not utilize the waiver allowing closed enrolled sites to use area eligibility in lieu of applications. The first week site visit waiver only applies to sites that successfully participated in the SFSP the previous year as well as CACFP and NSLP sponsors in good standing. The OVS waiver may not be used to circumvent the meal pattern; all components must be offered. Although the meal service time waiver does not expire until September 30, 2020, the non-congregate waiver expires on August 30, 2020.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
SP 19-2020	FFVP During COVID-19: Questions & Answers #2	FFVP	May 19, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directs SFAs to request a waiver to distribute FFVP produce at locations other than participating elementary schools. • Confirms that funds may be reallocated from participating schools that are not distributing meals to those that are. • Allows schools that participated in 2019-2020 and participate again in 2020-2021 to use the signatures on file if none of the signatories has changed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirms that FFVP produce may be distributed or delivered to children of all ages, not just students at participating elementary schools. • Participating elementary schools that are not distributing meals may not use FFVP funds to purchase produce to donate to other sites. • Participating schools that are not selected to participate in 2020-2021 may not retain funds for use next school year; they must be returned. • States may not extend the deadline to obligate funds but may extend some reporting deadlines.
CACFP 11, SFSP 11, SP 20-2020	Questions and Answers on the Nationwide Waiver to Extend Unanticipated School Closure Operations through June 30, 2020	SSO, SFSP, CACFP	May 29, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviews the requirements and elements of the law addressed by the waiver. • Clarifies that COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #21 also allows CACFP At-Risk Afterschool operations to continue for as long as unanticipated school closure operations continue, regardless of the school calendar. • Confirms that other waivers and flexibilities that have not yet expired still apply to SFSP and SSO operators after they transition to summer operations. • Allows non-profit SFSP sponsors to initiate home delivered meals if the public in eligible areas are notified and permitted to sign up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As with all nationwide waivers, states may or may not opt in to this waiver. • If a state does not opt in to COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #21, CACFP At-Risk Afterschool operations must end as soon as the planned school year ends, and programs must transition to usual summer options through SFSP or SSO, including the completion of required application materials. • SFSP and SSO sponsors delivering meals to homes should not treat each home as a site (in the same way that stops along a mobile route are). They should comply with the guidelines in the meal delivery Q&A. • Other streamlining measures and flexibilities for SFAs and CACFP At-Risk sponsors transitioning to summer meals program operations are still available.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
CACFP 12, SFSP 12, SP 21-2020	Questions and Answers Related to FSMC Contract Extensions and Allowable Costs During the Pandemic	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	June 3, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides guidance on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance fees charged by a FSMC Implications of additional costs to fixed-price contracts Paying staff who are not currently working and providing hazard pay Non-refundable costs for cancelled events & activities Provides guidance to SFAs on documentation needed regarding health inspections. Confirms that PPE, bottled water, and packaging and delivery costs are allowable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CACFP was not covered by the FSMC contract extension waiver because it does not have contract duration limits like other programs. For guidance on extending contracts other than FSMC contracts, consult state and local procurement standards. Although meal packaging and delivery costs are allowable, there is no additional funding available for these costs. State administrative expense (SAE) funds may not be used for local-level costs.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #26	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs – EXTENSION 3	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	June 8, 2020	July 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021 (NSLP, SBP, CACFP and SFSP/SSO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis. USDA instructs states to consider if the request is due to supply issues. Elections and approvals under COVID-19 #4, #13 or #24 continue without further action.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #27	Nationwide Waiver of Monitoring Requirements for CACFP Sponsors – EXTENSION	CACFP	June 8, 2020	August 31, 2020 Extended to Sept. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows sponsors to monitor facilities two times (instead of three) this fiscal year, and only one must be unannounced. Waives the requirement for at least one unannounced review to include the observation of a meal service. Waives the requirement that no more than six months elapse between reviews. Allows new facility reviews to be done by desk audit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available to sponsors that elect to be subject to the waiver; it is our understanding that sponsors do not need their state to opt-in for them. Elections and approvals under the original waiver may continue without further action. New facility reviews must still be done within the facility's first four weeks of operation.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #28	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for CACFP State Agencies – EXTENSION	CACFP	June 8, 2020	August 31, 2020 Extended to Sept. 2021 Other flexibilities to Sept. 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the in-person component of the state agency's required monitoring activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections and approvals under the original waiver may continue without further action. • States must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #29	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements in the School Meals Programs – EXTENSION	NSLP, SBP, SSO	June 8, 2020	August 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the in-person component of the state agency's and SFA's required monitoring activities. • Allows states to postpone required reviews of SFAs that are closed and request an extension on their review cycle as needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections and approvals under the original waiver may continue without further action.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #30	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for SFSP Sponsoring Organizations – EXTENSION	SFSP	June 8, 2020	August 31, 2020 Extended to Sept. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the requirement for an in-person site visit during the first week of a site's operation and the review of the site's food service within the first four weeks of operation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections and approvals under the original waiver may continue without further action. • Sponsors must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits. • COVID-19 #15 waived the first week site visit requirement for SFSP sites and sponsors that meet certain criteria.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #31	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for SFSP State Agencies – EXTENSION	SFSP	June 8, 2020	August 31, 2020 Extended to Sept. 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the in-person component of the state agency’s required monitoring activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections and approvals under the original waiver may continue without further action. • States must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits. • Reminds states that pre-operational visits may be waived for sponsors operating during school closures and that SFSP reviews are not required in the same year as a satisfactory NSLP review as long as the same person runs both programs.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #32	Nationwide Waiver to Extend Area Eligibility Waivers	SSO, SFSP	June 10, 2020	August 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends all individually-issued state waivers allowing SFSP and SSO sponsors in good standing to operate open summer meals sites located in areas that do not meet the definition of “areas in which poor economic conditions exist,” or areas where more than half of children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States must notify USDA if they elect to utilize this extension. • This applies to all sites approved under the previous waiver and plan. • States must continue to work with sponsors and operators to target benefits to children in need. • USDA reserves the right to withdraw approval based on funding availability.
N/A	FFCRA Opt-In Waiver for SY2020-2021 NSLP USDA Foods Entitlement Calculations	NSLP	June 16, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows SDAs to keep their preliminary SY2020-2021 USDA Foods entitlement, based on SY2018-2019 lunches served. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDAs must notify the USDA if they plan to opt in by September 15, 2020. • Allows SDAs to forgo the usual November reconciliation in 2020 that would adjust the preliminary entitlement to reflect SY2019-2020 lunches served.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #33	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs – EXTENSION #2	NSLP, SBP, CACFP	June 25, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits consumption of meals off-site and outside of group settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This allows for serving models like grab-n-go, curbside pick-up, mobile or bus routes, and home delivery. Partial or complete building closures that are planned will not count as unanticipated school closures during SY2020-2021 and may not be claimed through SFSP or SSO.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #34	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in the NSLP, SBP, and CACFP - EXTENSION	NSLP, SBP, CACFP	June 25, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides flexibility for serving times. Allows for serving multiple meals for the same day at one time and also meals for multiple days at the same time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must still establish meal service times or delivery times.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #35	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children – EXTENSION #2	NSLP, SBP, CACFP	June 25, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the requirement that meals are served directly to the eligible child or participant. Allows parents or guardians to pick up meals for their child. Allows for distributing meals to a guardian of an adult participant in the CACFP without the participant present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States need to ensure integrity and are instructed to work with operators on ways to verify adults have eligible children or participants and ensure that duplicate meals are not served.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #36	Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs – EXTENSION #4	NSLP, SBP, CACFP	June 25, 2020	June 30, 2021 <i>SUPER-SEDED by Extension 5</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis and must inform their regional office when, where, and for which components the waiver is in effect. USDA instructs states to consider if the request is due to supply issues.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #37	Nationwide Waiver to Allow OVS Flexibility for Senior High Schools in the NSLP for SY 2020–2021	NSLP	June 25, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates the requirement for senior high schools participating in the NSLP to implement OVS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is intended to make it easier for schools to serve pre-plated meals in the classroom if needed or to offer multi-day meal kits to students engaged in distance learning.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #38	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the SFSP - EXTENSION 5	SFSP	July 30, 2020	August 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. Clarifies that Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs – EXTENSION #4 applies to the SSO since it is part of NSLP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis. USDA instructs states to consider if the request is due to supply issues. Elections and approvals under COVID-19 #4, #13, #24 or #26 continue without further action.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #39	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for CACFP Sponsors	CACFP	August 4, 2020	September 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the in-person component of a sponsor's required monitoring activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unlike previous monitoring waivers for CACFP sponsors, this does not waive other monitoring requirements (like the annual number or how many must be unannounced). Sponsors must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #40	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for CACFP State Agencies – EXTENSION 2	CACFP	August 4, 2020	September 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the in-person component of the state agency's required monitoring activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elections and approvals under the original waiver or its extension may continue without further action. States must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits. The annual review waiver expires September 30, 2020.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #41	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements in the School Meals Programs – Revised – EXTENSION 2	NSLP (SSO), SBP	August 4, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the onsite monitoring requirement for state agencies and SFAs. Waives the requirement to complete the onsite portion of an administrative review within the same school year that the review was begun. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applies to both state agencies and SFAs that elect to use it without further application. Elections and approvals under the original waiver or its extension may continue without further action. State agencies that choose to conduct the onsite portion at a later time should submit an amendment to any previously provided documentation when significant changes or updates occur.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #42	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for SFSP Sponsoring Organizations – EXTENSION 2	SFSP	August 4, 2020	September 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the requirement for an in-person site visit during the first week of a site’s operation and the review of the site’s food service within the first four weeks of operation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections and approvals under the original waiver or its extension may continue without further action. • Sponsors must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits. • The first week site visit waiver expires September 30, 2020.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #43	Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for SFSP State Agencies – EXTENSION 2	SFSP	August 4, 2020	September 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the in-person component of the state agency’s required monitoring activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections and approvals under the original waiver or its extension may continue without further action. • States must continue to ensure integrity to the maximum extent practicable through remote activities, such as through desk audits.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #44	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the SFSP – Extension 3	SFSP	August 20, 2020	September 30, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permits consumption of meals off-site and outside of group settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This allows for serving models like grab-n-go, curbside pick-up, mobile or bus routes, and home delivery. • Partial or complete building closures that are planned will not count as unanticipated school closures during SY2020-2021 and may not be claimed through SFSP or SSO.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #45	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the SFSP - Extension 6	SFSP	August 20, 2020	September 30, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. • State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis and must inform their regional office when, where, and for which components the waiver is in effect. • USDA instructs states to consider if the request is due to supply issues.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #46	Nationwide Waiver to Extend Area Eligibility Waivers – EXTENSION	SFSP, SSO	August 20, 2020	September 30, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extends all individually-issued state waivers allowing SFSP and SSO sponsors in good standing to operate open summer meals sites located in areas that do not meet the definition of “areas in which poor economic conditions exist,” where more than half of children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States must notify USDA if they elect to utilize this extension. This applies to all sites approved under the previous waiver and plan. States must continue to work with sponsors and operators to target benefits to children in need. USDA reserves the right to withdraw approval based on funding availability.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #47	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children – Extension 3	SFSP	August 20, 2020	September 30, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the requirement that meals are served directly to the eligible child. Allows parents or guardians to pick up meals for their child. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States need to ensure integrity and are instructed to work with operators on ways to verify adults have eligible children and ensure that duplicate meals are not served.
SP 23-2020	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Operations for SY 2020-21 during COVID-19	FFVP	August 21, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirms that serving produce through FFVP is permitted, without a waiver, outside of the school day, along with other meals, in a non-congregate setting, and without an educational component. Reiterates that parent or guardian pick-up of FFVP produce and serving FFVP produce at sites other than the approved elementary school(s) do require waivers. Reminds state agencies that they can provide flexibility on reporting deadlines as long as all federal reporting and fund recovery deadlines are met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools that participated in FFVP during SY 19-20 that do not participate in SY 20-21 cannot use SY 19-20 funds after July 1, 2020. Unexpended funds must be returned to the state. State agencies and SFAs must still obligate all FY20 funds by September 30, 2020.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
CACFP 13, SFSP 13, SP 24-2020	Questions and Answers for the Child Nutrition Programs during School Year 2020-21 #5	NSLP, SBP, SSO, SFSP, CACFP	August 21, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides guidance related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School reopening, including virtual schools and remote learning Four-day school weeks Meal distribution locations Displaying the <i>Justice For All</i> civil rights poster Meal patterns and meal pattern waivers Potable water availability at breakfast & lunch and for remote learners Afterschool enrichment activities Meals for distance learners in child care Reiterates that planned building closures or remote learning do not qualify as unanticipated school closures, nor does delaying the start of the school year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools and CACFP providers are <i>not</i> obligated to utilize flexibilities like the non-congregate waiver, but if they do, they must make meals for all enrolled children, including remote learners and those who are not physically present. If schools close unexpectedly but provide remote instruction, then those days do not count as unanticipated school closures. Students or their parents/guardians may pick up meals at any school within the SFA, but meals must be claimed correctly. SFAs may create agreements to share data so that students could pick up meals outside their SFA. Virtual, remote, or take-home activities like enrichment packets can fulfill the enrichment activity requirement for afterschool meals and snacks. As usual with CACFP At-Risk, activities must be available to all who receive meals, but participation is not required. States are permitted to approve meal pattern waivers related to challenges providing safe and nutritious meals; they do not have to be directly related to supply chain disruptions. This can include waivers for NSLP vegetable subgroups or age/grade group differences.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #48	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites in SFSP and SSO - EXTENSION	SFSP, SSO	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows closed enrolled sites to determine site eligibility through area eligibility (instead of collecting income eligibility applications). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State agencies may elect to be subject to this waiver or their traditional waiver, if requested and approved. Traditional waivers will remain in effect until April 30, 2022 or until a final rule supersedes them.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #49	Nationwide Waiver to Waive First Week Site Visits in the SFSP - EXTENSION	SFSP	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the requirement that SFSP sponsors visit each of their sites at least once during their first week of operation. • Waiver applies to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sites that successfully operated SFSP the previous year. ○ SFSP sponsors in good standing that successfully operate the CACFP or NSLP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State agencies may elect to be subject to this waiver or their traditional waiver, if requested and approved. Traditional waivers will remain in effect until April 30, 2022 or until a final rule supersedes them.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #50	Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restrictions in SFSP and SSO - EXTENSION	SFSP, SSO	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives Federal rules on the amount of time that must elapse between the beginning of one meal and the beginning of the next, and the duration of a meal service. • Waives meal service time parameters for SSO. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsors are still required to establish meal service times for each site. • State agencies may elect to be subject to this waiver or their traditional waiver, if requested and approved. Traditional waivers will remain in effect until April 30, 2022 or until a final rule supersedes them.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #51	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer Versus Serve Flexibilities in the SFSP – EXTENSION	SFSP	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the limitation on the use of Offer versus Serve (OVS) to SFAs. • Allows the use of OVS by both non-SFA and SFA sponsors in good standing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides details of SFSP OVS meal service parameters. • State agencies may elect to be subject to this waiver or their traditional waiver, if requested and approved. Traditional waivers will remain in effect until April 30, 2022 or until a final rule supersedes them.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #52	Nationwide Waiver to Extend Area Eligibility Waivers – EXTENSION 2	SFSP, SSO	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends all individually-issued state waivers allowing SFSP and SSO sponsors in good standing to operate open summer meals sites located in areas that do not meet the definition of “areas in which poor economic conditions exist,” where more than half of children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States must notify USDA if they elect to utilize this extension. • This applies to all sites approved under the previous waiver and plan. • States must continue to work with sponsors and operators to target benefits to children in need.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #53	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the SFSP and SSO – Extension 7	SFSP, SSO	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis and must inform their regional office when, where, and for which components the waiver is in effect.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #54	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the SFSP and SSO – Extension 4	SFSP, SSO	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits consumption of meals off-site and outside of group settings. 	Allows for serving models like grab-n-go, curbside pick-up, mobile/bus routes, and home delivery.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #55	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children – Extension 4	SFSP, SSO	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows parents or guardians to pick up meals for their child. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States need to ensure integrity & are instructed to work with operators on ways to verify adults have eligible children.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #56	Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through December 2020	SFSP, SSO	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows the SFSP and SSO to continue to operate after the beginning of the school year, regardless of school operating status. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. SFAs may choose either SFSP or SSO. This waiver does not require SFAs to transition to SFSP or SSO operations.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #57	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Reimbursement for Meals Served Prior to Notification of Approval and Provide Flexibility for Pre-Approval Visits in the SFSP	SFSP	Sept. 11, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits state agencies to reimburse SFSP sponsors and sites for meals served prior to receiving written notification of approval. Allows approved SFSP sponsors to be reimbursed meals served before 8/31/20. Waives the requirement for state agencies to conduct pre-approval visits to SFSP sponsors and sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a sponsor or site application is ultimately not approved by the state agency, the meals will not be eligible for retroactive reimbursement. Sponsors must still have an agreement with the state. State agencies are encouraged to streamline the application and approval process. State agencies may conduct pre-approval visits at their discretion.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
CACFP 14, SFSP 14, SP 25-2020	Questions and Answers Relating to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through December 2020	SFSP, SSO, CACFP At-Risk	Sept. 11, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirms that non-school sponsors may operate SFSP. • Confirms that both school and non-school sponsors may operate both summer meals and CACFP At-Risk Afterschool concurrently. • Reiterates the guidelines for state agencies prioritizing applications to avoid duplication of services. • Allows meals served through NSLP/SBP this school year before August 31 to be reimbursed through SFSP or SSO. • Allows SFAs to operate NSLP/SBP at some schools and SFSP or SSO at other schools. • Allows states agencies to amend their area eligibility waiver plan to include new areas that were not previously identified as being in need. • Reassures operators that USDA will provide advance notice if a shortage of funds is projected and set a date when the option for the summer meals programs will end. Meals served through the summer programs prior to that date would be reimbursed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State agencies have discretion on procedures to update applications but are encouraged to streamline the process as much as possible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sponsors must update site and operating information. • As noted in prior guidance, SFAs may choose to operate through NSLP/SBP instead of the summer meals programs. • As permitted by earlier guidance, meals may be served through SFSP or SSO on or for weekends and holidays during the school year. • As noted in prior guidance, schools that utilize the non-congregate waiver must make meals available to all enrolled students, not just those present in the building for fully in-person instruction or hybrid models. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Schools may utilize the non-congregate waiver for one meal but not another. Meals must only be made available to all students if the non-congregate waiver is utilized for that meal. • States may approve new sponsors and/or sites to operate in areas eligible under the area eligibility waiver if previously approved sponsors or sites cannot continue through December.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #58	Nationwide Wavier of Area Eligibility in the CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Care Component	CACFP At-Risk	Sept. 18, 2020	December 31, 2020 Extended to June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the requirement that CACFP At-Risk Afterschool sites be located within the attendance zone of a school where at least half of students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State agencies must have a plan for targeting benefits. • Aligns CACFP At-Risk Afterschool with the SFSP and SSO, which have an area eligibility waiver.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #59	Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP & SSO Operations through School Year 2020-2021 – EXTENSION	SFSP, SSO	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows the SFSP and NSLP SSO to continue to operate through the school year, regardless of school operating status. Supersedes Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through December 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. SFAs may choose either SFSP or SSO. This waiver does not require SFAs to transition to SFSP or SSO operations.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #60	Nationwide Waiver to Extend Area Eligibility Waivers – EXTENSION 3	SFSP, SSO	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extends all individually-issued state waivers allowing SFSP and SSO sponsors in good standing to operate open summer meals sites located in areas that do not meet the definition of “areas in which poor economic conditions exist,” where more than half of children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This applies to all sites approved under the previous waiver and plan. States must continue to work with sponsors and operators to target benefits to children in need.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #61	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Feeding in the SFSP & SSO – EXTENSION 5	SFSP, SSO	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits consumption of meals off-site and outside of group settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows for serving models like grab-n-go, curbside pick-up, mobile/bus routes, and home delivery.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #62	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children – EXTENSION 5	SFSP, SSO	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the requirement that meals are served directly to the eligible child. Allows parents or guardians to pick up meals for their child. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States need to ensure integrity and are instructed to work with operators on ways to verify adults have eligible children and ensure that duplicate meals are not served.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #63	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the SFSP & SSO - EXTENSION 8	SFSP, SSO	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis and must inform their regional office when, where, and for which components the waiver is in effect.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #64	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites in the SFSP & SSO – EXTENSION 2	SFSP, SSO	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows closed enrolled sites to determine site eligibility through area eligibility (instead of collecting income eligibility applications). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State agencies may elect to be subject to this waiver or their traditional waiver, if requested and approved. Traditional waivers will remain in effect until April 30, 2022 or until a final rule supersedes them.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #65	Nationwide Waiver to Waive First Week Site Visits in the SFSP - EXTENSION 2	SFSP	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the requirement that SFSP sponsors visit each of their sites at least once during their first week of operation. Waiver applies to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sites that successfully operated SFSP the previous year. SFSP sponsors in good standing that successfully operate the CACFP or NSLP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State agencies may elect to be subject to this waiver or their traditional waiver, if requested and approved. Traditional waivers will remain in effect until April 30, 2022 or until a final rule supersedes them.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #66	Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restrictions in the SFSP & SSO – EXTENSION 2	SFSP, SSO	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives Federal rules on the amount of time that must elapse between the beginning of one meal and the beginning of the next, and the duration of a meal service. Waives meal service time parameters for SSO. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsors are still required to establish meal service times for each site. State agencies may elect to be subject to this waiver or their traditional waiver, if requested and approved. Traditional waivers will remain in effect until April 30, 2022 or until a final rule supersedes them.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #67	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer Versus Serve Flexibilities in the SFSP – EXTENSION 2	SFSP	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waives the limitation on the use of Offer versus Serve (OVS) to SFAs. Allows the use of OVS by both non-SFA and SFA sponsors in good standing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides details of SFSP OVS meal service parameters. State agencies may elect to be subject to this waiver or their traditional waiver, if requested and approved. Traditional waivers will remain in effect until April 30, 2022 or until a final rule supersedes them.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #68	Nationwide Waiver of Area Eligibility in the CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Care Component - EXTENSION	CACFP At-Risk	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waives the requirement that CACFP At-Risk Afterschool sites be located within the attendance zone of a school where at least half of students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State agencies must have a plan for targeting benefits. • Aligns CACFP At-Risk Afterschool with the SFSP and SSO, which have an area eligibility waiver.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #69	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Reimbursement for Meals Served Prior to Notification of Approval and Provide Flexibility for Pre-Approval Visits in the SFSP - EXTENSION	SFSP	October 9, 2020	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permits state agencies to reimburse SFSP sponsors and sites for meals served prior to receiving written notification of approval. • Waives the requirement for state agencies to conduct pre-approval visits to SFSP sponsors and sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a sponsor or site application is ultimately not approved by the state agency, the meals will not be eligible for retroactive reimbursement. • Sponsors must still have an agreement with the state. • State agencies are encouraged to streamline the application and approval process. • State agencies may conduct pre-approval visits at their discretion.
COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #70	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs – EXTENSION 5	NSLP, SBP, CACFP	October 9, 2020 <i>(Effective July 1, 2020)</i>	June 30, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supersedes Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs – EXTENSION 4 issued on June 25, 2020. • Allows operators to claim for reimbursement even if a meal does not meet all meal pattern requirements or include all meal components. • Waives the requirement for schools operating the NSLP and SBP to offer at least two different varieties of fluid milk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operators must get advance approval from their state agency. • Operators are encouraged to meet all nutrition requirements to the greatest extent possible. • State agencies can only grant this waiver on case-by-case basis and must inform their regional office when, where, and for which components the waiver is in effect.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
CACFP 01, SFSP 01, SP 01-2021	Questions and Answers Relating to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through SY 2020-2021 – EXTENSION – #2	NSLP, SBP, SFSP, SSO, CACFP	October 14, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits schools to operate as closed enrolled summer meals sites, even though that is not allowed for summer school. Clarifies that SFAs' 30 day carryover period for free or reduced-price eligibility determinations "pauses" while operating SFSP or SSO. The 30 operating day countdown begins or resumes when SFAs begin or resume NSLP/SBP. Confirms that USDA is working with the Department of Education on how waivers may affect education funding for SY 21-22 and directs questions to OESE.titlei-a@ed.gov. Allows SFAs operating SFSP or SSO to sell a la carte foods. Allows SFAs to operate NSLP Afterschool Snacks in conjunction with SFSP or SSO. Reiterates that operators may serve meals/snacks through multiple programs but may not give children more than the maximum number allowable per program per day. Clarifies that when CACFP At-Risk operators provide meals/snacks along with in-person activities, they must be served after the end of students' official school day. When care or activities are not provided on-site, meals may be distributed at any time. CACFP child care operators may only serve weekend meals if licensed for weekend care and the child is enrolled for weekend care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SFAs may choose either SSO or SFSP; they are not obligated to select one or the other based on usual or past summer operations. Summer meals sites operating during the school year are not required to be open sites. SFAs that began the school year serving meals through NSLP/SBP but retroactively sought reimbursement through SFSP or SSO instead should not count that time against students' 30 day carryover eligibility. A la carte foods served on the school campus must meet competitive food standards. Food sold by the SFA off campus or outside of the school day are not required to meet those standards. Enrichment activities are still required for NSLP Afterschool Snacks but may be virtual or take-home as with CACFP At-Risk. CACFP At-Risk operators may serve meals on/for the weekends, even if they have not in the past, as long as enrichment activities are offered. Organizations providing care for children during virtual learning days should seek approval to serve meals through SFSP in order to provide meals during the virtual school day since CACFP At-Risk meals/snacks can only be served after the school day ends. CACFP child care operators may provide meals for enrolled children using waiver flexibilities for any time that they would have been in care if not for COVID-19 closures or restricted capacity.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
SP 03-2021	FFVP Operations for SY 2020-21 during COVID-19	FFVP	Oct. 23, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarifies that flexibilities on service time and setting apply to schools that are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not operating in person as well as those operating with hybrid schedule models. ○ Operating SFSP or SSO as well as those operating NSLP. • Allows FFVP produce to be served to all children who receive meals through SFSP or SSO at elementary schools that participate in FFVP. The produce is not limited to students at that school or to children of a certain age. • Permits SFAs to reallocate FFVP funds from participating elementary schools that are not serving meals to participating elementary schools that are. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reiterates and adds some additional clarification to the Aug. 21, 2020 Q&A, which permitted non-congregate FFVP produce to be served outside of school hours and alongside other meals. A waiver is not necessary to utilize these flexibilities. • A waiver is necessary to serve FFVP produce to parents or guardians without their child present as well as to serve from sites that are not approved FFVP elementary schools.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
CACFP 03 , SFSP 03 , SP 04-2021	Questions and Answers Relating to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through SY 2020-2021 – Q&As #3	NSLP, SBP, SFSP, SSO, CACFP	November 2, 2020	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirms that SFAs are not limited to serving enrolled students and may serve all children when operating open sites through SFSP/SSO. • Confirms that operators may serve both in-person and non-congregate meals from the same site since some but not all participants may be able to eat on site safely. • Confirms that LEAs that have collected free and reduced-price applications this school year must complete verification, even if operating SFSP/SSO, and extends the verification deadline to February 28, 2021. • Directs LEAs operating SFSP/SSO to still conduct direct certification matching with SNAP at least three times per year. States are encouraged to be flexible on requiring schools to review partial match data. • Offers guidance to schools that want to transition to Provision 2 and to schools in the fourth year of a Provision 2 cycle. • Permits RCCIs to operate SFSP or SSO this school year. • Allows CACFP sponsors to reclassify Tier II family day care homes as Tier I based on one month of income. • Permits CACFP child care providers with limited hours to provide a combination of in-person and non-congregate meals to take home. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In all cases, daily per child meal maximums in each program must be followed, whether in person, non-congregate, or a combination. • Severe-need breakfast reimbursements and NSLP two-cent reimbursements are based on SY18-19 data and will not affect this school year for schools utilizing NSLP/SBP. USDA will issue guidance on how these reimbursements will be calculated in future years. • Afterschool operators should consider participants' access to technology when developing virtual or take-home activities to pair with non-congregate meals. • As noted in the prior Q&A, CACFP At-Risk operators providing in-person care during the day may not serve more than one meal and/or one snack daily through CACFP At-Risk. They may seek approval as CACFP child care providers to serve up to two meals and one snack daily or seek approval to serve through SFSP.

Waiver or Memo #	Waiver Name	Programs Covered	Release Date	End Date	What It Does	Notes
CACFP 04, SFSP 04, SP 05-2021	Questions and Answers Relating to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP and SSO Operations through SY 2020-2021 – Q&As #4	NSLP, SBP, SFSP, SSO, CACFP	January 5, 2021	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirms that non-profit child nutrition program operators can receive donated food from other child nutrition program operators as long as state and local safety standards are met. • Encourages flexibility in methods for safely recording attendance for CACFP At-Risk Afterschool sites serving non-congregate meals with take-home or virtual activities. • Clarifies that stimulus payments do NOT count as income in determining eligibility for free or reduced-price school or CACFP meals, but unemployment benefits do. • Provides guidance for how state agencies can calculate eligibility for severe need funding in SY 22-23 for schools operating SFSP or SSO this school year. • Gives state agencies flexibility to choose the best data source in order to determine eligibility for FFVP for SY21-22 as long as the same data and method are used statewide. • Confirms that schools operating SFSP or SSO this school year are still eligible for school equipment grants. • Provides guidance for operators who received Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFAs that do not participate in NSLP or SBP this school year do NOT need to terminate or amend their agreements with the state agency, nor will they be treated as new SFAs next school year. • In states with a single agreement across child nutrition programs, SFAs that are operating SFSP now but have not in the past should amend their agreements to reflect this. • For SFAs that collected free or reduced-price applications, the verification sample size should be based on the number of approved applications on file as of October 1, 2020, even though the deadline for verification was extended to February 28, 2021. • SFAs operating SFSP or SSO are permitted but not required to collect applications. SFAs are strongly encouraged to collect applications from students new to the LEA in order to establish eligibility for P-EBT. • If a PPP loan is forgiven, costs covered by the loan cannot be counted as child nutrition program costs since they were already covered by another federal program. • If a PPP loan is not forgiven, it may be repaid using child nutrition program funds if the loan was used to cover an otherwise allowable expense. • Interest on loan repayments, including but not limited to PPP loans, is not an allowable program cost.

Glossary of Acronyms & Terms

- **CACFP:** Child and Adult Care Food Program
- **FFCRA:** Families First Coronavirus Response Act
- **Families First Coronavirus Response Act:** a COVID-19 relief bill passed by Congress in March that gave the USDA nationwide waiver authority
- **FFVP:** Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
- **FSMC:** Food Service Management Company
- **ISP:** Identified Student Percentage
- **LEA:** Local Education Agency (typically a school district)
- **NSLP:** National School Lunch Program
- **PPE:** Personal protective equipment, which includes items like face masks
- **Program Operator:** Includes SFAs, public and private non-profit sponsoring organizations, and independent organizations that work directly with their state agency to run one or more of the child nutrition programs
- **RCCI:** Residential Child Care Institution
- **Residential Child Care Institution:** Includes locations like orphanages, group homes, and other shelters that provide residential care for children; meets the definition of a school in the NSLP regulations
- **SBP:** School Breakfast Program
- **SDA:** State Distributing Agency
- **State Distributing Agency:** The state government agency that oversees USDA Foods
- **SFA:** School Food Authority
- **School Food Authority:** The governing body responsible for operating school meal programs at one or more schools within one or more school districts
- **SFSP:** Summer Food Service Program
- **SMP:** Special Milk Program
- **SSO:** NSLP Seamless Summer Option
- **SY:** School Year
- **OVS:** Offer Versus Serve