



## USDA Nationwide Waivers for Child Nutrition Programs

All USDA nationwide waivers established in response to COVID-19 are in effect until the date listed or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier. Please contact the Nebraska Department of Education Nutrition Services at 800-731-2233 or 402-471-2488 with questions.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #96:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements in the CACFP</a>	In effect until 30 days after the public health emergency for CACFP
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- Waives requirement for CACFP sponsors to complete onsite monitoring.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #95:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements in the CACFP</a>	In effect until 30 days after the public health emergency for CACFP
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- Waives requirement for State agencies to complete onsite monitoring requirements for the CACFP.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #94:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements in the School Meals Program</a>	In effect until 30 days after the public health emergency for NSLP/SSO.
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- Waives requirement for State agencies and SFAs to complete onsite monitoring requirements.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #93:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Area Eligibility in the Afterschool Programs and for Family Day Care Home Providers in SY21-22</a>	In effect until June 30, 2022 for NSLP Afterschool Snack & CACFP
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- This waiver allows schools and schools and at-risk afterschool care centers, regardless of location, to claim all NSLP afterschool snacks and CACFP at-risk afterschool snacks and suppers at the Free rate.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #92:</b> <a href="#"><u>Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer Versus Serve Flexibility for Senior High Schools for SY21-22</u></a>	In effect until June 30, 2022 for NSLP/SSO
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- Waiving the OVS requirement allows schools to utilize pre-packaged or individually plated meals.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #91:</b> <a href="#"><u>Nationwide Waiver to Allow Specific Meal Pattern Flexibility for the CACFP for SY21-22</u></a>	In effect until June 30, 2022 for CACFP
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- Specific meal pattern flexibilities may be requested and utilized only at the approval of the State agency.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #90:</b> <a href="#"><u>Nationwide Waiver to Allow Specific School Meal Pattern Flexibility for SY21-22</u></a>	In effect until June 30, 2022 for NSLP/SBP/SSO
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- Specific meal pattern flexibilities may be requested and utilized only at the approval of the State agency.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #89:</b> <a href="#"><u>Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children During SY21-22</u></a>	In effect until June 30, 2022 for NSLP/SBP/SSO and CACFP
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- Only available to Sponsors of the NSLP/SBP/SSO and CACFP who make use of the non-congregate feeding waiver.
- Parents/guardians can take home meals without the enrolled child/student present at pick-up.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #88:</b> <a href="#"><u>Nationwide Waiver of Meal Times Requirements for SY21-22</u></a>	In effect until June 30, 2022 for NSLP/SBP/SSO and CACFP
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- Allows Sponsors of the NSLP/SBP/SSO and CACFP to serve meals and snacks that are not eaten within the time restrictions identified in program regulations during SY21-22.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #87:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Meal Service for SY21-22</a>	In effect until June 30, 2022 for NSLP/SBP/SSO and CACFP
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- Allows Sponsors of the NSLP/SBP/SSO and CACFP to provide meals that are not consumed on-site during SY21-22.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #86:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Summer Food Service Program Reimbursement Rates in SY21-22</a>	In effect until June 30, 2022 for SFAs operating SSO
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- Allows SFAs operating the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) during SY2021-22 to receive the higher SFSP reimbursement rates.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #85:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Seamless Summer Option Through SY21-22</a>	In effect until June 30, 2022
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- Allows SFAs to operate the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) to provide free meals to all students when school is open during SY2021-22.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #80:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites Summer 2021 Operations - EXTENSION (Previously Responses #14 &amp; #48)</a>	In effect until September 30, 2021 for SFSP
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- Allows sponsors of Closed Enrolled SFSP sites to use area eligibility in place of collecting individual income eligibility applications from participants.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #79:</b> <a href="#"><u>Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer Verses Serve Flexibilities for non-SFA Sponsors in the SFSP for Summer 2021 Operations - EXTENSION</u></a> (Previously Responses #16 & #51)	In effect until September 30, 2021 for SFSP
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- Meals and snacks do not need to be eaten within the time restrictions identified in program regulations.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #78:</b> <a href="#"><u>Nationwide Waiver for Meal Service Time Restrictions for Summer 2021 Operations - EXTENSION</u></a> (Previously Responses #2 & #50)	In effect until September 30, 2021 for SFSP
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- Meals and snacks do not need to be eaten within the time restrictions identified in program regulations.
- If using this waiver and the non-congregate meal service waiver, meals can be provided for more than one day at a time.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #77:</b> <a href="#"><u>Nationwide Waiver to Extend Area Eligibility Waivers for Summer 2021 Operations - EXTENSION</u></a> (Previously Responses #52)	In effect until September 30, 2021 for SFSP
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- Allows sponsors to operate SFSP Open sites in non-eligible areas.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #76:</b> <a href="#"><u>Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children for Summer 2021 Operations - EXTENSION</u></a> ((Previously Responses #5, #25, #35, #47 & #55 & #62)	In effect until September 30, 2021 for SFSP
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- Only available to Sponsors who make use of the non-congregate feeding waiver.
- Parents/guardians can take home meals without the enrolled child/student present at pick-up.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #75:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Feeding for Summer 2021 Operations - EXTENSION</a> (Previously Response #61)	In effect until September 30, 2021 for SFSP
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- Meals and snacks do not need to be eaten within the time restrictions identified in program regulations.
- If using this waiver and the non-congregate meal service waiver, meals can be provided for more than one day at a time.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #74:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs - EXTENSION</a> (Previously Response #63)	In effect until September 30, 2021 for NSLP Seamless Summer Option (SSO) <i>*This does not apply to SFSP</i>
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- NSLP SSO Sponsors are allowed to claim meals for reimbursement if they are unable to meet meal pattern requirements after exhausting all options to provide required components. Requests to use this flexibility must be justified and will be approved by NDE on a case-by-case basis. *\*This does not apply to SFSP*

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #73:</b> <a href="#">Child Nutrition Program Update</a>	In effect until September 30, 2021 for SFSP
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<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #72:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs - EXTENSION</a>	In effect until June 30, 2021 for NSLP, SBP & CACFP
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- NSLP, SBP and CACFP Sponsors are allowed to claim meals for reimbursement if they are unable to meet meal pattern requirements after exhausting all options to provide required components or if waiving meal pattern requirements will minimize potential exposure to the novel coronavirus. Requests to use this flexibility must be justified and will be approved by NDE on a case-by-case basis.
- If you choose to use this waiver, institutions must complete the [Request Form](#) and receive approval from the NDE Nutrition Services.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #71:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Food Service Management Contract Duration in the National School Lunch Program and Summer Food Service Program</a> <b>EXTENSION</b>	In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFAs, SFSP Sponsors
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- This waiver allows food service management company (FSMC) contracts that may expire by or around June 30, 2021 to be extended through school year 2021-2022 (June 30, 2022).

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #70:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs</a> - <b>EXTENSION</b>	In effect until June 30, 2021 for NSLP, SBP & CACFP
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- NSLP, SBP and CACFP Sponsors are allowed to claim meals for reimbursement if they are unable to meet meal pattern requirements after exhausting all options to provide required components or if waiving meal pattern requirements will minimize potential exposure to the novel coronavirus. Requests to use this flexibility must be justified and will be approved by NDE on a case-by-case basis.
- If you choose to use this waiver, institutions must complete the [Request Form](#) and receive approval from the NDE Nutrition Services.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #69:</b> <a href="#">Waiver to Allow Reimbursement of SFSP Meals Prior to Written Approval</a> (Previously Response #57)	In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP
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- Schools and other SFSP sponsors may serve SFSP meals prior to receiving written approval from NDE.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #68:</b> <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Area Eligibility in the Child</a>	In effect until June 30, 2021 for CACFP
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<p><b><u>and Adult Care Food Program At-Risk Afterschool Care Component - EXTENSION</u> (Previously Response #58)</b></p>	
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- Allows sponsors to operate the at-risk CACFP in non-area eligible locations.

<p><b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #67: <u>Offer Versus Serve allowed for non-SFA SFSP Sponsors - EXTENSION</u> (Previously Responses #16 &amp; #51)</b></p>	<p>In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP</p>
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- SFSP Sponsors that are not SFAs are allowed to use Offer Versus Serve as part of meal service. If you intend to use this option, please contact the NDE Nutrition services.

<p><b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #66: <u>Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restrictions in SFSP - EXTENSION</u> (Previously Responses #2 &amp; #50)</b></p>	<p>In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP</p>
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- Meals and snacks do not need to be eaten within the time restrictions identified in program regulations.
- If using this waiver and the non-congregate meal service waiver, meals can be provided for more than one day at a time.

<p><b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #65: <u>SFSP First Week Site Visit Waived - EXTENSION</u> (Previously Responses #15 &amp; #49)</b></p>	<p>In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP</p>
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- SFSP sponsors do not have to conduct first week site visits at all SFSP sites.

<p><b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #64: <u>Nationwide Waiver to Allow Area Eligibility for</u></b></p>	<p>In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP</p>
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<p><b><a href="#">Closed Enrolled SFSP Sites - EXTENSION</a> (Previously Responses #14 &amp; #48)</b></p>	
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- Allows sponsors of Closed Enrolled SFSP sites to use area eligibility in place of collecting individual income eligibility applications from participants.

<p><b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #63:</b>  <b><a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the SFSP - EXTENSION</a> (Previously Response #53)</b></p>	<p>In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP</p>
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- SFSP Sponsors are allowed to claim meals for reimbursement if they are unable to meet meal pattern requirements after exhausting all options to provide required components or if waiving meal pattern requirements will minimize potential exposure to the novel coronavirus. Requests to use this flexibility must be justified and will be approved by NDE on a case-by-case basis.
- If you choose to use this waiver, institutions must complete the [Request Form](#) *and* receive approval from the NDE Nutrition Services.

<p><b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #62:</b>  <b><a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to allow Parents/Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children - EXTENSION</a> (Previously Responses #5, #25, #35, #47 &amp; #55)</b></p>	<p>In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP</p>
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- Only available to Sponsors who make use of the non-congregate feeding waiver.
- Parents/guardians can take home meals without the enrolled child/student present at pick-up.

<p><b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #61:</b>  <b><a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate</a></b></p>	<p>In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP</p>
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<b><u>Feeding in the SFSP - EXTENSION</u> (Previously Response #50)</b>	
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- Meals and snacks do not need to be eaten within the time restrictions identified in program regulations.
- If using this waiver and the non-congregate meal service waiver, meals can be provided for more than one day at a time.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #60: <u>Nationwide Waiver to Extend Area Eligibility Waivers - EXTENSION</u> (Previously Response #52)</b>	In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP
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- Allows sponsors to operate SFSP Open sites in non-eligible areas.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #59: <u>Waiver to Allow SFSP through SY20-21 - EXTENSION</u> (Previously Response #56)</b>	In effect until June 30, 2021 for SFSP
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- Schools doing in-person, hybrid and virtual instruction may use the SFSP to provide meals.
- Sponsors that qualify to operate the SFSP may follow the SFSP meal pattern requirements and serve free meals to all enrolled students.
- Non-profit SFSP sponsors may provide meals but must coordinate with local schools and participants to ensure duplicative meals are not provided to students.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #58: <u>Waiver of Area Eligibility in the Child and Adult Care Afterschool At-risk Care Component</u></b>	In effect until December 31, 2020 for CACFP
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- Schools and other after school care programs in any location can serve at-risk afterschool meals and snacks to students after the regular school day until December 31, 2020.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #57: <a href="#">Waiver to Allow Reimbursement of SFSP Meals Prior to Written Approval</a></b>	In effect until December 31, 2020 for SFSP
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- Schools and other SFSP sponsors may serve SFSP meals prior to receiving written approval from NDE.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #56: <a href="#">Waiver to Allow SFSP Through December 2020</a></b>	In effect until December 31, 2020 for SFSP
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- Schools doing in-person, hybrid and virtual instruction may use the SFSP to provide meals.
- Sponsors that qualify to operate the SFSP may follow the SFSP meal pattern requirements and serve free meals to all enrolled students.
- Non-profit SFSP sponsors may provide meals but must coordinate with local schools and participants to ensure duplicative meals are not provided to students.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #55: <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to allow Parents/Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children</a> (Previously Responses #5, #25, #35 &amp; #47)</b>	In effect until December 31, 2020
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- Only available to Sponsors who make use of the non-congregate feeding waiver.
- Parents/guardians can take home meals without the enrolled child/student present at pick-up.
- Sponsors must ensure meals are only going to parents/guardians or other authorized adult of enrolled children.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #54: <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Feeding in SFSP</a></b>	In effect until December 31, 2020
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- Allows sponsors to provide grab & go/take-home meals to children; meals are not required to be consumed at the meal service site.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #53: <a href="#">Meal Pattern Flexibility EXTENSION</a></b>	In effect until December 31, 2020 for SFSP
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- Sponsors are allowed to claim meals for reimbursement if they are unable to meet meal pattern requirements after exhausting all options to provide required components or if waiving meal pattern requirements will minimize potential exposure to the novel coronavirus. Requests to use this flexibility must be justified and will be approved by NDE on a case-by-case basis.
- If you choose to use this waiver, institutions must complete the [Request Form](#) and receive approval from the NDE Nutrition Services.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #52: <a href="#">Waiver to Extend Area Eligibility</a> (Previously Responses #32 &amp; #46)</b>	In effect until December 31, 2020
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- Allows sponsors to operate SFSP Open sites in non-eligible areas.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #51: <a href="#">Offer Versus Serve allowed for non-SFA SFSP Sponsors</a> (Previously Response #16)</b>	In effect until December 31, 2020
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- SFSP Sponsors that are not SFAs are allowed to use Offer Versus Serve as part of meal service. If you intend to use this option, please contact the NDE Nutrition services.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #50: <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restrictions in SFSP</a> (Previously Response #2)</b>	In effect until December 31, 2020
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- Meals and snacks do not need to be eaten within the time restrictions identified in program regulations.
- If using this waiver and the non-congregate meal service waiver, meals can be provided for more than one day at a time.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #49: <a href="#">SFSP First Week Site Visit Waived</a> (Previously Response #15)</b>	In effect until December 31, 2020
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- SFSP sponsors do not have to conduct first week site visits at all SFSP sites.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #48: <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled SFSP Sites</a> (Previously Response #14)</b>	In effect until December 31, 2020
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- Allows sponsors of Closed Enrolled SFSP sites to use area eligibility in place of collecting individual income eligibility applications from participants.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #45: <a href="#">Meal Pattern Flexibility EXTENSION</a> (Previously Responses #4, #13, #26, &amp; #36)</b>	In effect until June 30, 2021 for NSLP, SBP & CACFP
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- Sponsors are allowed to claim meals for reimbursement if they are unable to meet meal pattern requirements after exhausting all options to provide requirement components. Examples: the grocery store or distributor is limiting supplies, grocery store or distributor is out of stock, or the distributor has delivery issues.
- Sponsors must make every effort to meet the meal pattern to the greatest extent possible.
- If you choose to use this waiver, institutions must complete the [Request Form](#) *and* receive approval from the NDE Office of Nutrition Services.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #44: <a href="#">Non-congregate Feeding EXTENSION</a> (Previously Responses #2, #22 &amp; #33)</b>	In effect until June 30, 2021 for NSLP, SBP & CACFP
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- Meals and snacks do not need to be eaten onsite or in a group setting.
- Grab-n-go, drive-thru, and delivery methods are allowed.
- If using this waiver and the meal service time flexibility waiver, you can provide meals for more than one day at a time.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #43:</b> <a href="#">Monitoring Flexibility - State Agencies</a> (Previously Responses #11& #31)	In effect until September 30, 2021
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- Grants State agency flexibility to the SFSP to conduct site visits and reviews as desk audits without an on-site visit.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #42:</b> <a href="#">Monitoring Flexibility - Sponsors</a> (Previously Responses #10 & #30)	In effect until August 31, 2021
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- Grants SFSP Sponsors flexibility to conduct site visits and reviews as desk audits without an on-site visit.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #40:</b> <a href="#">Monitoring Flexibility - CACFP Sponsors</a>	In effect until September 30, 2021
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- Grants State agencies flexibility to fulfill monitoring requirements as desk audits without an on-site visit.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #41:</b> <a href="#">Monitoring Flexibility - State Agencies &amp; SFAs</a> (Previously Response #9)	In effect until June 30, 2021
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- Grants flexibility to State agency and SFA to not conduct on-site monitoring requirements for the school meals program.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #39:</b> <a href="#">Monitoring Flexibility - CACFP Sponsors</a>	In effect until September 30, 2021
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- Grants CACFP sponsors flexibility to fulfill monitoring requirements as desk audits without an on-site visit.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #37: <a href="#">Offer Versus Serve Flexibility for Senior High Schools operating NSLP</a></b>	In effect until June 30, 2021
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- Flexibility to offer versus serve requirements for senior high schools
- Supports delivery or pick-up of meals for students doing distance learning.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #34: <a href="#">Meal Service Time Flexibility EXTENSION</a> for NSLP, SBP &amp; CACFP (Previously Response #23)</b>	In effect until June 30, 2021
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- Flexibility for time and duration of meal service NSLP, SBP & CACFP.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #18: <a href="#">School Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment</a></b>	The new assessment deadline is June 30, 2021
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- LEAs are allowed one extra year to complete the School Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment, extending the deadline to June 30, 2021.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #17: <a href="#">Meal Service Time Flexibility EXTENSION</a> for SFSP (Previously Response #1)</b>	In effect until August 30, 2020
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- Flexibility for time and duration of meal service for SFSP.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #6: <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver for Community Eligibility Provision Deadlines</a></b>	In effect until August 31, 2020
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- LEAs using CEP may use data from April 1 through June 30, 2020 to calculate Identified Student Percentage (ISP).
- LEAs must submit ISP data to NDE by June 15th.



<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #21: <a href="#">Extend Unanticipated School Closure Operations Through June 30, 2020</a></b>	In effect until June 30, 2020
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<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #3: <a href="#">No Enrichment Activity Required for At-risk and NSLP Afterschool Snack</a></b>	In effect until June 30, 2020
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- Only applies to at-risk afterschool programs and NSLP offering afterschool snack.
- No requirement to provide enrichment activities with the meal service.

<b>COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #12: <a href="#">60-day Reporting Requirements for January and February 2020</a></b>
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- USDA provided extensions for submitting January and February 2020 NSLP claims.

**January 2020 claims are due by April 30, 2020.**

**February 2020 claims are due by May 29, 2020.**