

Waiver Request from the Connecticut State Department of Education to the U.S. Department of Agriculture

Operation of Child Nutrition Programs during COVID-19 Outbreaks Request to Waive the Food Service Management Contract Duration in the National School Lunch Program through June 30, 2022

Summary

In response to the current COVID-19 public health emergency, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is requesting a waiver for the contract duration requirements for local educational agency (LEA) sponsors in good standing that contract with a Food Service Management Company (FSMC) with a contract renewal cycle expiring by or around June 30, 2021.

Waiver Request

All Connecticut LEAs with expiring contracts for SY 2020-21 have already completed the bulk of the necessary steps to properly procure the FSMC contracts for SY 2020-21; therefore, no LEAs were able to implement the one-year extension available through the nationwide waiver. Many school food authorities (SFAs), sponsors, and FSMCs may be closed, operating with reduced capacity, or otherwise unable to conduct a competitive procurement process for a new FSMC contract.

The CSDE requests a waiver of the contracts duration requirements for state agencies, school food authorities, and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors at 7 CFR 210.16(d) and 225.6(h)(7) to allow sponsors in good standing to continue their current FSMC contract through June 30, 2022. This will reduce the burden and administrative costs for LEAs, while allowing the continued provision of meals to children in a manner that minimizes potential exposure to and spreading of COVID-19.



This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/COVID-19/Public_Announcement24_Waiver_FSMC_Contract_Duration. For more information, visit the CSDE's [Operation of Child Nutrition Programs during Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Outbreaks](#) section of the CSDE's Child Nutrition Programs webpage.

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Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
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- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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