

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 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Time Restrictions

Summary

This request is to waive restrictions for meal service times to allow authorized SFSP and SSO sponsors to serve approved meals at any times during distributions, exclusive of lunch and supper being served for the same day, to children 18 years old and younger at eligible and authorized distribution locations of SFSP or SSO meals during school closures related to COVID-19.

Waiver Request

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act authorizes the provision of meals to children who are not in school during unanticipated school closures through the SFSP or the National School Lunch Program's SSO. Under normal circumstances, the SFSP and SSO require time restrictions on meal services, including how much time must elapse between meal service and times when certain meals must be served by and completed by, as defined for the SFSP in 7 CFR 225.16(c)(1), 7 CFR 225.16(c)(2), 7 CFR 225.16(c)(3); and as required for the SSO, which must follow the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program regulations as defined in 7 CFR 220.2(b) and 7 CFR 210.10(f).

However, during a public health emergency due to COVID-19, SSO and SFSP meals may be provided in a non-congregate setting and/or direct delivery. Additionally, SSO and SFSP sponsors may provide multiple meals for multiple days (not lunch and supper) in a single household distribution to children 18 years old and younger in support of social distancing. To address this important issue, the Connecticut State Department of Education has requested a waiver of meal service time restrictions to allow authorized SFSP and SSO sponsors to serve approved meals at any times during distributions, exclusive of lunch and supper being served for the same day, to children 18 years old and younger at eligible and authorized distribution locations of SFSP or SSO meals during school closures related to COVID-19.

This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/COVID-19/Public_Announcement2_Waiver_Time_Restrictions_SSO_SFSP.pdf. 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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