

# 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 Physical Presence of Child for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO)

### Summary

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is requesting that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) waive the requirement for a child to be physically present for meal service under the SFSP and SSO. This waiver will allow authorized SFSP and SSO sponsors to distribute nutritious meals and snacks to heads of households, on behalf of the children residing in the household, to provide to their children when they cannot be physically present at a meal distribution site due to circumstances related to COVID-19.

### Waiver Requests

Under normal circumstances, meals and snacks served in the SFSP and SSO must be served to a child who is physically present as defined in 7 CFR 225 and 7 CFR 210. However, during a public health emergency due to COVID-19, children may not be able to be physically present to receive the meals. To address this issue, the CSDE has requested a waiver of the requirement that the child be physically present to receive a meal, and allow for heads of households to receive meals on their children's behalf in order to provide those meals to their children for consumption.

This document is available at [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/COVID-19/Public\\_Announcement8\\_Waiver\\_Physical\\_Presence\\_Child\\_SFSP\\_SSO.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/COVID-19/Public_Announcement8_Waiver_Physical_Presence_Child_SFSP_SSO.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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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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