

# 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 Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Deadlines

### Waiver Request

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is seeking a waiver from the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to extend the dates established in 7 CFR 245.9(f)(4)(i), which require local educational agencies (LEAs) to establish the number of students who are directly certified as of April 1, and to select to participate or renew participation in CEP by June 30. In addition, the CSDE is seeking a waiver for the dates established in 7 CFR 245.9(f)(6)-(8), which require the state agency to notify the LEA of their eligibility, and conduct public notification, using data as of April 1.



This document is available at [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/COVID-19/Public\\_Announcement\\_2022\\_02\\_Waiver\\_CEP\\_Deadlines.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/COVID-19/Public_Announcement_2022_02_Waiver_CEP_Deadlines.pdf). For more information, visit the “Operation of Child Nutrition Programs during Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreaks” section of the CSDE’s Child Nutrition Programs webpage.

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

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint>, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (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).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

The Connecticut State Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Connecticut Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of age, ancestry, color, criminal record (in state employment and licensing), gender identity or expression, genetic information, intellectual disability, learning disability, marital status, mental disability (past or present), national origin, physical disability (including blindness), race, religious creed, retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, sex (pregnancy or sexual harassment), sexual orientation, veteran status or workplace hazards to reproductive systems, unless there is a bona fide occupational qualification excluding persons in any of the aforementioned protected classes.

Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Levy Gillespie, Equal Employment Opportunity Director/Americans with Disabilities Coordinator (ADA), Connecticut State Department of Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 505, Hartford, CT 06103, 860-807-2071, [levy.gillespie@ct.gov](mailto:levy.gillespie@ct.gov).