

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

Prospective Waiver to Provide Non-congregate Meal Service to Participants Fasting During Ramadan

Summary

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is requesting a prospective waiver to allow sponsors of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Child and Adult Care Food program (CACFP) to offer non-congregate meals to participants fasting during Ramadan from February 17, 2026, through March 19, 2026.

Waiver Request

The National School Lunch Act (NSLA), Child Nutrition Act, and Program regulations require school food authorities (SFAs) and institutions to operate congregate meal services at specific times. SFAs and institutions that serve meals to participants observing Ramadan often experience a drop in participation and would benefit from offering alternative meal service options. This waiver would allow SFAs and institutions to offer meals that participants in attendance can take off-site and consume after fasting, providing participants that observe Ramadan access to healthy and wholesome meals during the period from February 17, 2026, through March 19, 2026.

This document is available in the "[CSDE Waiver Requests to USDA](#)" section of the CSDE's [Current School Year Operational Updates for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.



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To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted 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; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

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