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

Prospective Waiver to Provide Non-congregate Meal Service in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), NSLP Seamless Summer Option (SSO), and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-risk Afterschool Meals in Specific Circumstances

Summary

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is requesting a prospective waiver through June 30, 2027, to provide non-congregate meal service in the NSLP, SBP, SFSP, SSO, and CACFP at-risk afterschool meals when congregate meal service operations are limited due to natural disasters, scheduled major building repairs, court orders relating to school safety or other issues, labor-management disputes, or, when approved by the state agency for a similar cause.

Waiver Request

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Child Nutrition Programs are expected to be administered in accordance with all statutory and regulatory requirements; waivers to the requirements are exceptions. However, Section 12(l) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA), 42 U.S.C. 1760(l), provides USDA authority to waive requirements for state agencies or eligible service providers under certain circumstances.

The USDA is allowing states to submit a prospective waiver to provide non-congregate meal service in the NSLP, SBP, SFSP, SSO, and CACFP at-risk afterschool meals when congregate meal service operations are limited due to natural disasters, scheduled major building repairs, court orders relating to school safety or other issues, labor-management disputes, or, when approved by the state agency for a similar cause. The CSDE is requesting this waiver, which is effective through June 30, 2027.

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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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