

Date: July 22, 2020

To: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) List-Serv Members

From: Community Nutrition Team

Subject: CACFP Bulletin: July 2020-30: COVID-19 Waiver Extensions for CACFP

Announcements from the Wisconsin Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

- Extensions of the following CACFP Waivers through June 30, 2021
 - CACFP Meal Pattern Flexibility
 - Waivers for Off-Site Meals
 - Non-congregate Feeding
 - Allowing Parents/Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children
 - Meal Service Time Flexibility

Extension of CACFP Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver (ALL)

USDA extended the nationwide waiver to allow meal pattern flexibility through **June 30, 2021**. This waiver extends previously approved waivers and allows agencies to submit waiver requests if experiencing supply disruptions for one or more components that begin during this extended period.

You do not need to resubmit a waiver form for meal pattern flexibility on components already approved if still experiencing these same supply disruptions.

- Complete this waiver form **ONLY** if your agency is currently experiencing disruptions to the availability of food products for one or more components not previously approved:
<https://forms.gle/4Hurq1cFxAvEh3Si6>
- The DPI will review each waiver request and approve on a case-by-case basis. You will receive notification when your request is approved or denied. CACFP operators must make every effort to meet the meal pattern requirements during these supply disruptions.

Waivers for Off-Site Meals (ALL)

The following three waivers apply to programs that want to distribute meals off-site.

All agencies must complete this waiver request to participate in these waivers even if previously submitted, using this link: <https://forms.gle/x7L3we738aJ8Cdkm9>

Extension for Non-Congregate Feeding Waiver (ALL)

USDA continues to waive the requirement that meals/snacks be consumed onsite for agencies that elect to participate in this waiver. This is for participants enrolled in the CACFP and not for siblings or adult household members in the home. Meals/snacks may be picked-up or delivered through **June 30, 2021**. **Complete the Google form (link above) even if previously submitted, to send DPI your process for implementation.**

Important Reminders:

- Meals must include all required food components in the proper minimum amounts for each meal being claimed for reimbursement;
- Must ensure that food items are clearly identifiable as making up reimbursable meals;
- Provide menus with directions indicating which items are to be served for each meal and the portion sizes;
- Consider whether households have access to refrigeration, stoves, microwaves, etc., when providing food items that require refrigeration or further preparation, such as reheating; and
- Consider sending food items that require minimal preparation and the items do not need to be extensively modified through chopping, mixing, baking, etc.

Extension to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick up Meals for Participants (ALL)

USDA continues to allow parents or guardians to pick up meals and bring them home to their children who are enrolled in the CACFP. This waiver is extended through **June 30, 2021**, for agencies who elect to participate. This waiver also applies to guardians picking up meals for adult participants in the CACFP Adult Care component. The purpose of this waiver is so enrolled participants are not required to accompany the parent/guardian while picking up the meals.

Complete the Google form (link above) even if previously submitted, to send DPI your process for implementation.

Agencies must have a plan to ensure that meals are distributed only to parents or guardians of enrolled participants and that children are not receiving duplicate meals from other child nutrition programs. For example:

- Maintain a roster with the names of enrolled participants and check off when the meal(s) are provided to the family of the enrolled participant.
- Ask if the enrolled children received the same meals from another child nutrition program.

Extension for Meal Service Time Flexibility Waiver (ALL)

USDA continues to waive the meal service time requirements through **June 30, 2021**, for agencies that elect to participate in this waiver. This waiver would allow agencies to supply meals/snacks to participants outside contracted meal service times, which allows for grab-n-go options and multiple days-worth of meals to be provided at once. **Complete the Google form (link above) even if previously submitted, to send DPI your process for implementation.**

The maximum number of meals or snacks that can be claimed per participant, per day is the same as under normal CACFP operation:

- Child Care, Adult Care, Head Start, Outside of School Hours Programs: Up to two meals and one snack, or two snacks and one meal, per participant per day;
- At-Risk Afterschool Programs: Up to one meal and one snack per participant per day;
- Emergency Shelters: Up to three meals per participant per day

Note: Agencies are *not required* to provide meals through these waivers. If an agency closes due to COVID-19, families of the children who normally attend may receive meals for their children through the local school district under the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

Refer to the Team Nutrition resource **Providing Multiple Meals at a Time During the COVID-19 Pandemic** at this link: https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/CACFP_Bulk%20Foods.pdf

for information about using bulk foods and distributing multiple meals at a time.

Check out the **CACFP COVID-19 Questions and Answers** at this link:

https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/community-nutrition/pdf/cacfp_covid-19_q_and_a.pdf

For DPI's CACFP COVID-19 Information visit: <https://dpi.wi.gov/nutrition/coronavirus/cacfp>

PROGRAM ABBREVIATION KEY		
CC: Child Care	HS: Head Start	OS: Outside of School Hours Care
AR: At Risk	ES: Emergency Shelters	ADC: Adult Day Care
FDCH: Family Day Care Home	SO: Sponsoring Organizations	ALL: Applies to all types

The abbreviation key identifies each type of program in the CACFP. Each section above identifies who the information applies to when implementing the CACFP. If your type of program is not listed in a section, it does not apply.