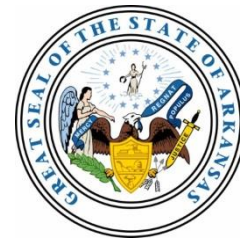




Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education



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MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS
FROM: DCCECE / HNU
DATE: APRIL 27, 2020
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restricts in the Summer Food Service Program

This is an important notice regarding the recent COVID-19 Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restrictions in the Summer Food Service Program (SFS).

Program regulations at 7 CFR 22.16 (c) (1) and (2) require minimum elapsed times between meal service and maximum duration of individual meal services in the SFSP. COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act USDA approved Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs, released on March 20, 2020. FNS recognizes that, in this public health emergency, continuing the waiver of meal service times in the SFSP would reduce administrative burden on State agencies and Sponsors and support streamlined access to nutritious meals. Therefore, FNS allows states to waive those requirements that place Federal limits on the amount of time that must elapse between the beginning of one meal and the beginning of the next meal and the duration of meal service.

Arkansas DHS is opting into this waiver for all 2020 SFSP Sponsors operating under an APPROVED COVID-19 Waiver Plan. Programs must send in their Public Notice notifying the public of their service time frame for each site. This Public Notice must be uploaded in SNP Document Uploads and submitted with your COVID-19 Waiver Plan for approval prior to operating your 2020 SFSP sites.

Original Nationwide Waiver to all Allow meal service Time Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs remains in effect through June 30, 2020. This waiver is effective on July 1, 2020 and remains in effect through September 30, 2020.

Please keep this memo on file for quick and easy reference. A copy is also available on the resource library under HNP Mass Alerts and COVID-19 References. If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact your Program Coordinator at: 501-682-8869.