



March 12, 2020

Dear Sponsors of the Child Nutrition Programs:

On March 11, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), Division of Food and Nutrition (DFN), received waiver approval from USDA that allows schools closed due to the coronavirus to serve meals to students through the National School Lunch Program's (NSLP) Seamless Summer Option (SSO) or through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) in a non-congregate setting.

USDA has released SP 08-2020, SFSP 04-2020, Child Nutrition Program Meal Service During Novel Coronavirus Outbreaks, dated March 6, 2020, which contains an initial question and answer document. This USDA memo is posted on PEARS Download Forms, COVID-19 Section.

School Nutrition Program Sponsors interested in utilizing non-congregate feeding in the event of a school closure through SSO or SFSP must obtain approval from DFN prior to serving any non-congregate meals during a school closure. Steps for obtaining approval can be located on PEARS Download Forms, COVID-19 Section.

While Local Education Agencies have the option to choose to operate the waiver through SFSP or SSO, the most expeditious process for schools is the SSO.

Questions can be directed to:

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Sincerely,

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