

# National School Lunch Program

Bulletin

[EED NSLP Bulletin Web Page](http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/NSLP9.html)

***Child Nutrition Programs***

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To: Local Educational Agencies Date:  April 1, 2020

From: Elizabeth Seitz, NSLP Program Coordinator Bulletin: 2020-8

***LEAs are required by regulation to keep Bulletins, Instructions, and USDA Policy Memorandums for reference and to apply immediately the appropriate instruction to agency programs. Call Child Nutrition Programs if you need further clarification.***

## USDA Policy, Information, & Implementation Memos

* [COVID-19 #1](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/COVID19-MealTimesNationwideWaiver.pdf)- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs
* [COVID-19 #2](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/COVID19-NonCongregateNationwideWaiver.pdf)- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs
* [COVID-19 #3](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/COVID19-AfterschoolActivityNationwideWaiver.pdf)- Nationwide Waiver of the Activity Requirement in Afterschool Care Child Nutrition Programs
* COVID-19 #4- Meal Pattern Nationwide Waiver
* **USDA Q&As #1** Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during COVID-19 Outbreak
* **USDA Q&As #2** COVID-19 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Meal Delivery Using Existing Authority

## Additional Topics

* Feeding Program Partnership in Response to COVID-19
* No Kid Hungry [FAQs](http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/FAQs%20on%20Child%20Nutrition%20Program%20Options%20Available%20During%20COVID19%203-21_FINAL.pdf) Child Nutrition Programs Options Available During School Closures Related to COVID
* Food Safety Practices from Alaska Department of Conservation
* CNP-Web and Primero Edge User Authorizations

## Resources

* ***New*** ELearning course- Preparing for an Administrative Review for School Nutrition Programs
* Classrooms, Cafeterias, Communities: A Guide to Building Integrated Farm to School Programs
* ***Updated*** Food Buying Guide
* Listserv

## Grant Opportunities

* ***None at this time***

## USDA Policy, Information & Implementation Memos

* [COVID-19 #1](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/COVID19-MealTimesNationwideWaiver.pdf)- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs
* [COVID-19 #2](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/COVID19-NonCongregateNationwideWaiver.pdf)- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs
* [COVID-19 #3](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/COVID19-AfterschoolActivityNationwideWaiver.pdf)- Nationwide Waiver of the Activity Requirement in Afterschool Care Child Nutrition Programs
* **COVID-19 #4- Meal Pattern Nationwide Waiver** Pursuant to the COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act and based on the exceptional circumstances of this public health emergency, Food & Nutrition Services (FNS) is granting a nationwide waiver to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to the novel coronavirus. Please find attached the subject waiver to the requirements to serve meals that meet meal pattern requirements during the public health emergency due to COVID-19. This waiver applies to State agencies administering and local organizations operating the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Summer Food Service Program.

This waiver is effective immediately and remains in effect until April 30, 2020 or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier.  FNS is offering this flexibility in short term increments and will reevaluate the continued need for the waiver as the situation continues to evolve. Please see the attached for further implementation and reporting details.

The Alaska Child Nutrition Programs (AKCNP) will be sending out an updated waiver form to all sponsors, those how wish to elect this waiver may complete the waiver form and return it to AKCNP.

* USDA Q&As #1 Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during COVID-19 Outbreak
* USDA Q&As #2 COVID-19 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Meal Delivery Using Existing Authority

## Additional Topics

* **USDA Announces Feeding Program Partnership in Response to COVID-19**

USDA will use best practices learned through a summer pilot program in 2019 to deliver food boxes to children affected by school closures due to COVID-19 in rural America. Baylor will coordinate has coordinated with Alaska Child Nutrition Programs to prioritize students who do not currently have access to a Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) site and have an active outbreak of COVID-19. Initial capacity is limited, and additional vendors are requested and encouraged to ensure we can provide food to more rural children as additional schools close. If you feel your rural district could benefit from this program please contact us.

For more information on this box meal mailout program please contact us Jo.dawson@alaska.gov or Elizabeth.seitz@alaska.gov.

* **No Kid Hungry** [FAQs](http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/FAQs%20on%20Child%20Nutrition%20Program%20Options%20Available%20During%20COVID19%203-21_FINAL.pdf) **Child Nutrition Programs Options Available During School** This resource is based on guidance and options available as of 3/21/2020 and includes some initial information related to new waiver authority given to the USDA through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and new flexibilities offered by three nationwide waivers.
* **Food Safety Practices from Alaska Department of Conservation** Due to the nature of COVID-19, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Food Safety and Sanitation Program strongly encourages the following to protect employees and customers, and ensure consumer confidence:
* **Increase cleaning and sanitizing of all high touch points.** Do this frequently, and make it visible to customers.
	+ - Disinfect all high touch points, including door handles, payment systems and touch screens, shared pens, and utensils (including those for employees only and those available to customers).
		- If surfaces are visibly dirty, clean the surface to remove any soil prior to disinfecting to make sure that your sanitizer can do its job.
		- At a minimum, cleaning and sanitizing should be done **every ½ hour**, and more frequently based on the volume of customers.
* **Place hand sanitizer stations and wipes throughout store.**
	+ - Provide hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes for consumers to wipe down key pads and other high touch areas at checkout.
* **Keep customers adequately spaced.** In areas of high-volume traffic, use spacing tools for checks and lines – tape on the floor is an inexpensive tool.
	+ **Keep high-risk shoppers safe.** Make adjustments or other efforts to address seniors and other high-risk shoppers: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html>
	+ **Ask customers who bring in reusable bags to bag their own items.**
	+ **If you use scannable loyalty cards, ask shoppers to hold their card while the market employee scans the card (rather than the employee handling the card).**

If you would like more detailed and thorough guidance, we recommend visiting the below websites:

* [Coronavirus and Pandemic Preparedness for Food Industry](https://www.fmi.org/food-safety/coronavirus/) (FMI)
* [Food Safety and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)](https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/food-safety-and-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19) (FDA)
* [Preventing the Spread of COVID-19: Guidance for Food Establishments](http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/food/food-worker-and-establishment-guidance-on-covid-19/) (DEC)
* **CNP-Web and Primero Edge User Authorizations** Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) assigns a user name and password to nutrition and education staff when a User Authorization form is completed and submitted to CNP when access is needed for the claiming system (CNP-Web and Primero Edge), as part of the staff’s job duties. These forms state:

*“I will not share my user name and password in order to maintain the integrity of the data. If another user uses the CNP Web or Primero Edge under my user name and password and provides false information, I understand that I will be responsible for the information supplied to CNP.*

*I will notify the CNP immediately if my user name and password have been compromised. CNP will give me a new user name and password.*

*If I no longer need access to the CNP Web, I understand that it is my responsibility to submit a form to end access.”*

CNP staff have been noticing quite a number of user names and education staff that are sharing their user names and passwords which is **NOT ALLOWED**. When this occurs CNP staff will immediately turn off that user name’s access and that staff will be required to obtain a new user name and password. If this behavior continues we may be forced to deny access to the CNP-Web and Primero Edge for those staff members. Please be sure you are not sharing your user names with other staff. If a new member needs access they must submit a User Authorization form located on our web page:

 [CNP-Web Access](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp/nslp3)

 [Primero Edge Access](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp/primero)

If you have any questions regarding this requirement you may contact me at Elizabeth Seitz (Elizabeth.Seitz@alaska.gov) or 907.465.8709 or Debbie Soto (Debbie.soto@alaska.gov) or 907.465-8712.

## Resources

* ***New*** **ELearning course- Preparing for an Administrative Review for School Nutrition Programs** This training overviews the administrative review process for School Nutrition Programs (SNP). The Administrative Review process occurs on a 5-year review cycle and incorporates both off-site and on-site activities. The Administrative Review process ensures program integrity and compliance with federal law and regulations in the operation of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast programs.

**Part 1** discusses the general overview of the review process and more in-depth information about the Access and Reimbursement section.

**Part 2** reviews the Nutrition Quality/Meal Pattern and Resource Management review sections.

**Part 3** addresses General Program Compliance and Other Federal Program Reviews sections to assist sponsors in being successful.

To register for this training and many more go to: Alaska Department of Education & Early Development [eLearning](https://eedelearning.asentialms.com/).

* **Connecting Classrooms, Cafeterias, Communities: A Guide to Building Integrated Farm to School Programs**The newly published [Vermont FEED Guide](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https%3A/vtfeed.org/resources/connecting-classrooms-cafeterias-communities-guide-building-integrated-farm-school__;!!J2_8gdp6gZQ!_itx_CGefte05j9l_Ny3VcgdorOABM3k_J7uwqgxySugA1VeEPlJn8ELLE-AHAVSptRCQw$) is intended to support school communities in developing robust, long lasting, and integrated farm to school programs, addressing whole school change. It reflects 20 years of practice, evaluative research, and innovation in the field.  The guide is organized around farm to school action planning, a step-by-step process to help you assemble a team, identify shared goals, and plan and conduct strategic activities. In addition, it provides valuable content on classroom curriculum, school meal programs, and community building. The guide is filled with useful templates, curricular design strategies, and creative ways to communicate and celebrate farm to school success. Available for free download and to purchase as a hard copy with this [link.](https://vtfeed.org/resources/connecting-classrooms-cafeterias-communities-guide-building-integrated-farm-school)
* ***Updated* Food Buying Guide** USDA has finally released the updated Food Buying Guide to help nutrition staff with understanding when purchasing foods, such as how much is in a #10 can of peaches or the number of portions you get from 20 pounds of ground beef. You can download the [Food Buying Guide](https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Appendix/DownLoadFBG).
* **Listserv**- Did You Know? Alaska Child Nutrition Programs has a listserv. The purpose of the listserv is to provide information and updates on the USDA Child Nutrition Programs, including the National School Lunch Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the Summer Food Service Program.

To receive all of the hottest news and updates from Alaska Child Nutrition Programs, Subscribe to ak\_child\_nutrition\_programs by filling out the form found here: [Alaska Child Nutrition Programs ListServ](http://list.state.ak.us/mailman/listinfo/ak_child_nutrition_programs).

You will receive a confirmation link via email which you should click to complete your subscription.

## Grant Opportunities

* ***None at this time.***

**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

 **DATE: EVENT:**

**April 1st State Records Management (SRM) DUE**

**May 1st Applications for Provision Operations DUE**

**June 1st Food Safety Inspection Report Due**

**June 1st On-site Self-Monitoring Summary for Afterschool Snack or At-Risk Meals Due**

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