Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Waivers

Social Media

Mary Burks, Director of Schools Support
Marianna Chauvin, Division Director
Charles Crawford, Division Director

September 1, 2021
State Board of Education

**Strategic Plan Goals**

1. **ALL** Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
2. **EVERY** Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career
3. **EVERY** Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
4. **EVERY** School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
5. **EVERY** Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes
6. **EVERY** School and District is Rated “C” or Higher
To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community
SSO Waivers

SSO Program Year 2021/2022
Hurricane Ida

Report to the State Agency

- Damage to sites
- Closures (anticipated duration if known)
- Issues that affect product distribution
- Loss of product (please share this information with MSDH as well)
- Any immediate assistance that you may need from the State Agency
SSO Waivers Agenda

1. Available SSO Waivers
2. How to Apply
3. USDA Monitoring
4. Administrative Review
5. Social Media
6. Questions and Answers
Available SSO Waivers

Districts must apply for SY 2021-2022
Child Nutrition Program Waivers for School Year 2021-2022

• #89-Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children for School Year 2021-2022

• #90-Nationwide Waiver to Allow Specific School Meal Pattern Flexibility for School Year 2021-2022
  • Sodium
  • Whole Grain Rich requirements at all levels including Pre-K
  • Vegetable Subgroups
  • Milk Varieties
  • Flavored Milk
  • Age/Grade Groups
How to Apply for Waivers
Parent Pick up Waiver

Template - SSO Program Year 2021/2022
Parent Pick Up Waiver

District Name:
Application to Participate in Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children as part of the SSO (2021-2022 SY)

As allowed by COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response (CNR), nationwide waiver to allow parents and guardians to pick up meals for children as of 5/21/2021, and may be renewed for the duration of the 2021-2022 SY (through 6/30/2022) at the discretion of the SN.

Waiver Request Applies to: All Sites Selected Sites (listed below)

1. List of Sites

2. Provide a description of the Parent/Guardian Meal Pick Up system and how it will ensure that Meals are only distributed to parents or guardians of eligible children.

3. Provide a description of how you will ensure that duplicate meals are not distributed to any child.

State Agency only

Complete Signatory
Parent Pick Up Waiver Form

*Sample Language is Available!
Parent Pick Up

You MUST have a plan for verifying the eligible children!

• Added an additional certification to the waiver
• You must have a plan to verify eligible children
• You must have a roster
• You must train your staff
• Adults should NOT be walking up and picking up meals without being verified
• Do NOT tell the SA, “Oh, my staff know my families…”
Parent/Guardian Application

District Name: ____________________________

Child Nutrition Program Parent Pick Up Approval

Site Name:

Name of Participating Child:
Name of Participating Child:
Name of Participating Child:
Name of Participating Child:
Name of Participating Child:
Name of Participating Child:
Name of Participating Child:
Name of Participating Child:

I acknowledge that all information on this form is true. I understand that SFSP/CACFP officials may verify the information. I understand that if I purposely give false information, the participant receiving meals may lose the meal benefits through the USDA Program.

Parent/Guardian Sign Name: ____________________________
Parent/Guardian Print Name: ____________________________

Parent/Guardian Sign Name: ____________________________
Parent/Guardian Print Name: ____________________________
Zip Code: ______

District/Organization Use Only

I, the Sponsor's authorized representative, acknowledge to the best of my ability that the above information is correct and will provide meals to the Parent/Guardian for the above children listed.

Sponsor Signature: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________

Roster Number: ____________________________

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Rev. 9/9/2020

ROSTER NUMBER

NUMBER OF CHILDREN
District Verify Children on Parent/Guardian Application

- Match district Information with enrolled students to household
- Non-students
  - Birth certificates or
  - Court Documents
  - Visual observation (easiest to do)
Parent Pick Up Waiver Examples when to use it

• Bus Delivery
• Sack lunches

It is not for Meals served in the Cafeteria
Bus Delivery

- Number of Buses
- Number of Households
- Roster

REMEMBER!
- Parents have to request bus delivery
- You have to verify the number of eligible children in the household
- You have to create a roster
Federal Authority

COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #90

- Nationwide Waiver to Allow Specific School Meal Pattern Flexibility for SY 2021-2022
- FNS waives the requirement to serve meals that meet specified meal pattern requirements during the public health emergency due to COVID-19
- This waiver applies to local organizations operating the NSLP, SBP, and SSO.
Am I eligible for a Meal Pattern Waiver?

- All requests must be targeted and justified with a demonstrated need based on plans to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to COVID-19.

- USDA expects that flexibilities will only be utilized as needed, and furthermore expects that operators look to other alternatives prior to utilizing these flexibilities.

**IF YOU HAVE RETURNED TO NORMAL CONGREGATE FEEDING, MEAL PATTERN WAIVERS MAY NOT BE APPROVED**
What kind of Meal Pattern Waivers can I apply for?

• USDA was very specific regarding what flexibilities can be approved.

• Local Operators can request the following flexibilities as needed:
  • Sodium (will be automatically approved)
  • Whole Grain Rich requirements at all levels including Pre-K
  • Vegetable Subgroups
  • Milk Varieties
  • Flavored Milk
  • Age/Grade Groups
Applying for Meal Pattern Waivers

Meal Pattern Waiver Request for School Food Authorities (SFAs)
Implementing the SSO, NSLP, or SBP in School Year 2021-2022

USDA Waivers grant meal pattern flexibility for all schools operating the SSO, NSLP, or SBP during the 2021-2022 School Year (SY). In order to take advantage of these flexibilities, local operators must obtain State Agency (SA) approval.

This form may be utilized to request a waiver of the requirements at 7 CFR 210.10 (b), (c), (f), (o), and (p) as it relates to the meal pattern for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP); as well as requirements at 7 CFR 220.6 (b) (c), (f), and (o) as it relates to the meal pattern for the School Breakfast Program (SBP).

The meal pattern flexibilities granted in this waiver are effective as of the date of SA approval, and remain in effect until June 30, 2022.

All waiver requests must be targeted and justified and based on plans to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to COVID-19 during SY 2021-2022. Waiver requests should be as limited in scope as possible to ensure children still have access to all vital nutrients.

For more information, please visit MDE CCN webpage: https://www.mdek12.org/CCN

District/Organization Name:

Name of Person Submitting Application:

Title of the Person Submitting Application:

Signature:

Date:

My School District is implementing: Traditional Learning Virtual Learning Hybrid Learning

All Waivers Requested Herein:

☐ Sodium Flexibility
☐ Vegetable Subgroup Flexibility
☐ Whole Grain Flexibility (for any age group)
☐ Milk Variety Flexibility
☐ Age Group Flexibility

By clicking this box I certify that I understand that these meal pattern flexibilities will only be utilized for the duration and extent that they are needed.
Sodium Waiver

Automatic approved
Districts must
Request to participate
Vegetable Sub-groups

Meal Pattern Waiver Request for School Food Authorities (SFAs) Implementing the SSO, NSLP, or SBP in School Year 2021-2022

Vegetable Subgroup Flexibility Waiver

Organizing Name: ____________________ Request this Waiver: YES NO

Request to waive requirement to offer a variety of vegetables from the vegetable subgroups, as per 7 CFR 210.10(c) and/or 220.8(c).

V.1. The vegetable subgroup waiver will apply to the following meals: Breakfast Lunch

V.2. The vegetable subgroup waiver will apply to the following delivery strategies: Grab & Go Meals to the Classroom Bus delivery Shelf-stable foods

V.3. The meals served that are subject to this vegetable subgroup waiver will implement OVS not implement OVS

V.4. The meals served that are subject to this Waiver will be primarily "Hot" meals "Cold" meals

V.5. Describe your barriers to meeting the Meal Pattern Requirement and indicate which vegetable subgroups you may not be able to offer in full quantities over the course of the week:

Red/Orange Starchy Beans/Peas Dark Green Other

V.6. Describe your plan to maintain standards to the greatest extent possible by selecting all vegetable subgroups that you will offer in full quantities over the course of the week:

Red/Orange Starchy Beans/Peas Dark Green Other

V.7. How will this waiver request/plan minimize potential exposure to COVID-19?

State Agency Use

Date Received: ____________ SA Decision: Approved Denied

SA FAP Signature: ____________ Process Date: ____________

Denial Reason: ____________________

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider. Revised 6/16/2021
When to use the Vegetable Subgroup Waiver

• Parent Pick Up
• Bus Deliveries
• Sack/Bagged lunches that go to the classroom
What NOT to use with the Vegetable Subgroup Waiver

• Using the serving line and meals are consumed in the cafeteria
• Temporary disruptions in the supply chain
• Circumstances have changed
Supply Chain Issues

• Planned menus should meet meal pattern
• Document shortages & missed deliveries
• Make substitutions from the same sub-group if possible
Shelf Stable Packages

• Sending meal packs (week worth of meals) needs approval from the Health Department
Whole Grain Rich Flexibility Waiver

Meal Pattern Waiver Request for School Food Authorities (SFAs) Implementing the SSO, NSLP, or SBP in School Year 2021-2022

Whole Grain Rich Flexibility Waiver

Org Name: __________________________ Request this Waiver: YES NO

Request to waive the requirement that grain offered must be whole grain rich at 7 CFR 210.10 (a) and/or 220.8 (c). By checking yes below in question W.2., request to waive the requirement that preschoolers be served at least once per day across all eating occasions at least one serving of whole grain rich grain at 7 CFR 210(c)(3) and (p); and/or 220.8(c).

W.1. The Whole Grain waiver will apply to the following meals: Breakfast Lunch

W.2. Select the Age Groups that will utilize Whole Grain Flexibilities

- Pre K
- K-6
- 9-12

W.3. Barrier to meeting the Meal Pattern Requirement

W.4. Plan to maintain standards to the greatest extent possible

W.5. How will this waiver request/plan minimize potential exposure to COVID-19?

State Agency Use
Date Received: ____________ SA Decision: Approved Denied
SA Rep Signature: ____________ Process Date: ____________
Denial Reason: ____________
Milk Variety Flexibility Waiver

Meal Pattern Waiver Request for School Food Authorities (SFAs) Implementing the SSO, NSLP, or SBP in School Year 2021-2022

Milk Variety (Choice of Milk) Flexibility Waiver

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Org Name:</th>
<th>Request this Waiver:</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Request to waive the requirement to offer a variety of fluid milk choices at 7 CFR 210.10 (d) (1) (b) and/or 220.6 (d).

M.1. The Milk Variety waiver will apply to the following meals:
- Breakfast
- Lunch

M.2. The Milk Variety waiver will apply to the following delivery strategies:
- Grab&Go
- Meals to the Classroom
- Parent Pick Up
- Bus Delivery
- Congregate Feeding in the Cafeteria
- Shelf Stable Packages

M.3. The Meals served that are subject to this milk Variety Waiver will implement OVS

M.4. Barrier to meeting the Meal Pattern Requirement

M.5. Plan to maintain standards to the greatest extent possible

M.6. How will this waiver request/plan minimize potential exposure to COVID-19?

State Agency Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Received:</th>
<th>SA Decision:</th>
<th>Approved</th>
<th>Denied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SA Rep Signature:</td>
<td>Process Date:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denial Reason:</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider. Revised 6/16/2021
## Age/Grade Group Flexibility Waiver

### Food components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age/Grade Groups</th>
<th>Grades K-5</th>
<th>Grades 6-8</th>
<th>Grades 9-12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Meal Pattern Waiver Request for School Food Authorities (SFAs)

Implementing the SSO, NSLP, or SBP in School Year 2021-2022

### Age/Grade Group Flexibility Waiver

**Org Name:**

**Request this Waiver:** YES NO

Request to waive the requirement to offer food components for specified age/grade groups in the state combinations at 7 CFR 210.10 (c) and/or 220.9 (c).

1. **A.1.** The Age/Grade Group waiver will apply to the following meals:
   - Breakfast
   - Lunch

2. **A.2.** The Age/Grade Group waiver will apply to the following delivery strategies:
   - Grab & Go
   - Meals to the Classroom
   - Parent Pick Up
   - Bus Delivery
   - Shelf Stable Packages

3. **A.3.** Barrier to meeting the Meal Pattern Requirement

4. **A.4.** Plan to maintain standards to the greatest extent possible (include plans for cereals, fruit, and veg)

5. **A.5.** How will this waiver request/plan minimize potential exposure to COVID-19?

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**State Agency Use**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Received</th>
<th>SA Decision</th>
<th>Approved</th>
<th>Denied</th>
<th>SA Rep Signature</th>
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</thead>
</table>

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This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider. Revised 07/16/2021
Flavored Milk Flexibilities

For school not on State Purchasing Program

District Contact Information

Meal Pattern Waiver Request (Flavored Milk Flexibilities) for School Food Authorities (SFAs) Implementing the SSO, NSLP, or SBP in School Year 2021-2022

USDA Waivers grant meal pattern flexibility for all schools operating the SSO, NSLP, or SBP during the 2021-2022 School Year (SY). In order to take advantage of these flexibilities, local operators must obtain State Agency (SA) approval.

This form may be utilized to request a waiver of the requirements at 7 CFR 210.15(c) and (d)(1)(i), and 220.8(c) and (d).

The meal pattern flexibilities granted in this waiver are effective as of October 1, 2021, and remain in effect until June 30, 2022.

Waiver requests must be targeted and justified and based on plans to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to COVID-19 during SY 2021-2022. Waiver requests should be as limited in scope as possible to ensure children still have access to all vital nutrients.

For more information, please visit MDE OCN webpage: https://www.msdek12.org/OCN

District/Organization Name: ________________________________
Name of Person Submitting Application: ______________________
Title of the Person Submitting Application: ____________________
Signature: ________________________________
Date: ________________________________

My School District is Implementing: Traditional Learning  Virtual Learning  Hybrid Learning

By clicking this box I certify that I understand that these meal pattern flexibilities will only be utilized for only the duration and extent that they are needed.
Flavored Milk Template

Meal Pattern Waiver Request (Flavored Milk Flexibilities) for School Food Authorities (SFAs) Implementing the SSO, NSLP, or SBP in School Year 2021-2022

Flavored Milk Flexibility Waiver

Org Name: ________________________________

Request to waive requirement that low-fat milk must be unflavored at 7 CFR 210.10(y)(5) and (d)(1)(i), and 220.8 (e) and (d).

1. The flavored milk waiver will apply to the following meals: Breakfast  Lunch

2. Barrier to meeting the Meal Pattern Requirement

3. Plan to maintain standards to the greatest extent possible

4. How will this waiver request/plan minimize potential exposure to COVID-19?

__________________________________________________________________________

State Agency Use

Date Received: __________________________ SA Decision: Approved  Denied

SA Rep Signature: __________________________ Process Date: __________________________

Denial Reason: __________________________

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
USDA expects that flexibilities will only be utilized as needed

- Even if your waiver is approved and effective through June 30, 2022, these meal pattern flexibilities should only be utilized as needed.
- If you return to normal operations, you should return to the normal meal pattern
USDA Monitoring

Marianna Chauvin
USDA Monitoring

• USDA will come out to monitoring SA Administrative Reviews or looks over our reviews in one form.

• Districts keep good documentations is the key
Administrative Review

Marianna Chauvin
Administrative Reviews

• We will be sending out the 21/22 Review Schedule shortly
• SA will conduct 65 ARs this school year
  • Mostly Virtual
  • Have a choice of Virtual/In Person Site Meal Observations
• May have both an AR and a Procurement Review
Administrative Reviews (off site assessment)

• Strongly encourage you to complete off-site assessment in MARS by Oct 1 (if you have an early review, we may ask you to complete it sooner)

• If you complete your off-site at least a month prior to your review (meal observation), the SA does have the ability to potentially waive certain sections contained in Resource Management
Procurement Reviews (PR)

• SA will conduct 36 PRs this year
• SA will conduct a webinar to help those with scheduled PRs prepare
Social Media

Charles Crawford
Tips – for the world of social media

Best Practices

• We understand it is a challenge, with labor shortages, delivery issues, not receiving the food products, and substituting.
• Watch colors on trays (don’t be all brown), be aware of menus.
• **Fruits and vegetables play a prominent role in school meals by adding color and visual appeal.**
• Take your own pictures.
• Plan ahead with district public relations in case something hits the media or social media.

And most important, go to the schools and see what’s going on before complaints hit.
Picture Posted on Social Media

Fries were uncooked/overcooked, the nuggets were not heated, expired milk and the amount of food was shamefully deficient
Both items were partially frozen.
The person who posted it said this post was not to bash anyone but bring awareness.
Picture Posted on Social Media
Colorful tray/label
Example of what to do
Example of what to do
Example of an OVS tray
Thanks to the Director Valerie Weivoda for sharing her Districts food pictures; awesome job!

The next few pictures are Courtesy of Lee CO School District.
Serving Lines
Examples of good trays-Lee County
Examples of good trays-Lee County
Questions
Non-Discrimination

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Full Non-Discrimination Statement link:

Mary Burks, Marianna Chauvin & Charles Crawford

School Support Division
mburks@mdek12.org;