

Good morning SFSAs,

Our interesting year continues as we are now dealing with Hurricane Zeta. As it is almost November, hopefully we will not have any more 2020 surprises! Please be safe and don't forget to notify our office and your distributor of any closures. Please see below for two reminders regarding snacks and SFSP 2021.

After School Snacks

During our Teams meeting with SFAs last week, announced that NSLP related After School Snacks may be served while participating in the SFSP. This change was based on new information received from USDA. School may choose to use that program or CACFP At Risk meals for snacks.

Also, After School Snacks served before the announcement may be claimed as such if meal requirements were met. We strongly encourage you to **claim any August snacks before close-of-business Friday, October 30, 2020**. Doing so after October 30 MAY require the use of a one time exception. We are looking to USDA for more guidance on this subject, but filing August claims before October 30 is your best practice.

SFSP Applications

A number of SFAs have not completed the SFSP 2021 agreement in MARS. **SFSP 2021 applications must be completed and approved before October meals may be claimed**. Due to the large number of applications not yet submitted and the time required for OCN to review, resolve any errors, and approve agreements, SFAs without completed applications may see delays in their ability to submit claims for reimbursement. This will result in a delay in the transmission of reimbursement to the SFA. **Please complete your SFSP 2021 agreement immediately if you plan to claim October meals under the SFSP.**

Thanks again for being a School Nutrition CHAMPION and for your work serving Mississippi's children.
Scott

Scott Clements, **State Director**
Office of Child Nutrition and Healthy Schools