

Louisiana Believes

Child Nutrition Program COVID-19 Flexibilities

Governor's Proclamation

“With appropriate social distancing measures, schools shall, if able, continue to provide meals or other essential services with applicable staff.”*

***State of Louisiana Proclamation Number JBE 2020-27**

USDA Response to COVID-19

USDA granted waivers to approve flexibilities for school meals providers to serve children during unanticipated school closures due to COVID-19.

Waivers are approved through June 30, 2020 or “*upon expiration of the federally declared public health emergency*”. (whichever is first).

Allows use of the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) or the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

Seamless Summer Option vs. Summer Food Service Program

To allow schools to begin serving immediately, school systems are to apply for the Seamless Summer Option.

- Requires only an update to the NSLP/SBP online application
- Allows continued use of NSLP/SBP program requirements

School systems may operate the SSO at both school and non-school sites.

School systems may wish to transition to SFSP at a future date.

Requested Waivers

These waivers allow provision of meals while limiting interaction between participants (social distancing).

- 1. Allowance of non-congregate feeding**
- 2. SSO/SFSP operation by non area-eligible schools**
- 3. Removal of time restrictions for meal service**
- 4. Use of alternate feeding methods/meal delivery**

Congregate Feeding Waiver

Removes requirement that students must remain on-site while meals are consumed.

SSO/SFSP Operation by Non Area-Eligible SFAs

Allows SFAs that are not area-eligible to serve meals via the SSO/SFSP.

Meal Service Timing Flexibility

Removes time requirements between meal services.

Alternate Feeding Methods/Meal Delivery

Allows school systems the option to provide meals through alternate or non-traditional methods.

How to Apply for Seamless Summer Option

1. Log into the CNP website (www.cnp.doe.louisiana.gov)
2. Click the SFS tab
3. Click “Seamless Waiver” (left side of page)
4. Click “Edit Form”
5. Complete all required questions

Demonstration of [application](#) completion.

SSO During COVID-19

- **Meals may be served at no charge to children age 18 and under.**
- **Follows NSLP and SBP operational requirements.**
- **Meals are reimbursed at the NSLP/SBP “free” rate.**
- **A maximum of two meals may be served, per child, per day (lunch and supper may not be served together).**
- **OVS not allowed. Meals must be unitized.**

Seamless Summer Option Reminders

More information about CNP operation during COVID-19:

[SP 08-2020 CNP Meal Service During Novel Corona Outbreaks](#)

[SP 08-2020 A1 CNP Meal Service During Novel Corona Outbreaks](#)

More information about SSO:

[SP 09-2017: 2017 Edition of Questions & Answers for the NSLP Seamless Summer Option](#)

FAQs

- 1. Does USDA or the State Agency require a specific method of meal delivery?**
- 2. Have any meal pattern component requirements been waived?**
- 3. How many meals may be offered each day?**
- 4. Can children who are not enrolled in a school be served by the school?**
- 5. How are children counted and claimed?**
- 6. Are students required to pick up meals, or can a caregiver receive a meal on child's behalf?**
- 7. Can adults purchase meals?**

Additional COVID-19 Information

[LDOE Child Nutrition Program Website](#)

[Louisiana Believes COVID-19 Website](#)

[USDA FNS COVID-19 Website](#)

**For more information, please contact the
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