

# Louisiana Believes

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**LDOE Child Nutrition Program Operations During  
COVID-19 - Update  
March 30, 2020**

# Waivers

# Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in the CNPs

**Effective End Date:** June 30, 2020, or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier.

**What this waiver means:** Removes the time requirements between meal services.

# Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Feeding in the CNPs

**Effective End Date:** June 30, 2020, or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier.

**What this waiver means:** Removes the requirement that meals must be served in a congregate setting and must be consumed by participants on-site.



# Waiver to Allow Delivery of Meals

**Effective End Date:** June 30, 2020, or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier.

**What this waiver means:** Allows the option to provide meals through alternate or non-traditional methods.

**Note:** If opting in, **the sponsor must obtain written consent from households** of eligible children that the household wants to receive delivered meals.

# Nationwide Waiver of the Activity Requirement in Afterschool Care CNPs

**Effective End Date:** June 30, 2020, or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier.

**What this waiver means:** Removes the requirement to serve meals and snacks in a structured and supervised environment, with an educational or enrichment activity.

# Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the CNPs

**Effective End Date:** April 30, 2020, or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier.

**What this waiver means:** With justification, meal pattern requirements are waived to allow program operators to serve meals that may not meet the nutrition standards.

**Note:** Sponsors must maintain documentation to support efforts to obtain the component for which the waiver is requested.

# Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parent/Guardian Pick Up of Meals for Children

**Effective End Date:** June 30, 2020, or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier.

**What this waiver means:** Children do not have to be present to pick up meals. Sponsor must ensure program accountability/integrity.

**Note:** If opting in, **the sponsor must have a documented process in place** to ensure meals are distributed only to parents/guardians of eligible children and that duplicate meals are not distributed.



# Nationwide Waiver of Monitoring Requirements for Sponsors

**Effective End Date:** June 30, 2020, or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier.

**SFSP Sponsors:** sponsors may meet the first week and first four weeks site monitoring requirements via desk audits or other off-site means.

**CACFP Sponsors:** Modifies the monitoring requirements for CACFP sponsors surrounding number of reviews, unannounced reviews, reviews that may be conducted as desk audits, and the amount of time that may elapse between reviews.

# Waiver to Allow SSO/SFSP Sponsors to Operate Open Sites in Non Area-Eligible locations

**Effective End Date:** June 30, 2020, or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier.

**What this waiver means:** Allows SFAs that are not area-eligible to serve meals via the SSO/SFSP.

# Additional Nationwide State Agency Waivers

- **Waiver of On-Site Monitoring Requirements in CACFP**
- **Waiver of On-Site Monitoring Requirements in School Meal Programs**
- **Waiver of On-Site Monitoring Requirements in the SFSP**

# Nationwide Waiver of the Community Eligibility Provision Deadlines in the NSLP/SBP

This waiver makes the following adjustments to annual CEP deadlines:

CEP Requirement	Waiver Deadline
Data Used to Calculate ISP	Anytime between April 1-June 30, 2020
LEA Notification	June 15, 2020
State Agency Notification	June 15, 2020
State Agency Publication	June 30, 2020
Elect CEP for Following SY	August 31, 2020



**Seamless Summer Option  
&  
Summer Food Service Program**



# Seamless Summer Option Reminders

- **Early SSO Closure -**

If your program ends operations earlier than anticipated,, please be sure to revise your SSO Application, via the CNP System, to reflect the last actual date of operation.

- **Submission of SSO Claim**

Please be reminded that March 2020 SSO Meal Data will be reported with the usual School Food Service (SFS) March Claim. Please see memo SFS 20-85 for additional instruction ([Click here to access memo SFS 20-85](#) ).

# Summer Food Service Program Reminders

- If your district (or SFA) intends to apply for participation under the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and did not participate in the SFSP in Summer 2019, please notify Shanna Legier by phone (225-342-3677) or email ([shanna.legier@la.gov](mailto:shanna.legier@la.gov)) of this intent. Log-in access for the Summer Feeding Program will need to be granted in order for the user to access the 2020 SFSP Application.
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- SFAs currently participating in the SFSP (or those who intend to) have the option to utilize either the School Food Service (NSLP/SBP) Meal Pattern or the simplified SFSP Meal Pattern in its operations.
- The State Agency's SFSP Forms Booklet can be found on the CNP Website → SFSP Memos (listed as memo SFS 20-47). Click here to access: [Memo SFS 20-47](#) .
- 2020 SFSP Reimbursement Rates can also be located under SFSP Memos (20-51). Click here to access: [Memo SFS 20-51](#) .



**Emergency Meals to You**

# Status of Emergency Meals to You Applications

- All applications submitted to LDOE were sent to the Baylor Collaborative/MTY by March 26. Most were sent on March 24-25.
- Some districts have received approval
- Baylor and USDA have been contacted by LDOE to express concern regarding districts that have not been approved.
- Alternatives to MTY include partnering with experienced SFSP providers or [vendors](#) that have expressed capability to serve.

# Emergency Meals to You Reminders

- eMTY meals are not claimed for reimbursement
- eMTY schools may not also participate in SSO/SFSP
- Districts that have schools that are not participating in eMTY may operate SSO/SFSP open sites.
- Emergency Meals to You website: [mealtoyou.org](http://mealtoyou.org)





# **Food Service Operations Health and Safety Guidelines**

# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Districts were contacted last week regarding PPE needs specific to food service operation.
- PPE was provided by the National Guard for districts continuing to operate their own meals programs.
- The PPE provided is meant to be non-disposable (cleaned daily and reused)
- Districts should also implement meal distribution procedures provided by the National Guard to minimize need for PPE:

[Drive-up](#)

[Walk-up](#)

Multiple Meal Delivery

# Food Service Operation Recommendations

## SFS 20-82 Food Service Operations During COVID-19

- 1. Food Service Operation Health Guidelines Template**
  - Recommended COVID-19 employee health procedures
  - Includes handwashing, employee temperature screening, social distancing, delivery, use of gloves, facility cleaning
- 2. Restaurant Information on COVID-19 (LDH)**
  - Additional guidance for food service employees
- 3. LDH Guidance for SFA Serving Non-Congregate Meals in Response to COVID-19**
  - Specific guidance for grab & go and delivered meals
  - Includes food temperatures, labeling, records to maintain

# Food Service Operation Recommendations

1. [Public Health Emergency Response for Retail Store Managers](#) (LSU AgCenter)
  - Identification of high risk areas, disinfectant use
2. [Food Takeout and Delivery During a Public Health Emergency](#) (LSU AgCenter)
  - Recommendations for take-out (grab & go) and food delivery
3. [Food Safety & COVID-19 \(FDA\)](#)
  - Guidelines for infected employees, handling food, cleaning food service equipment