



Public Notification – Summer Food Service Program Waiver Requests

The Puerto Rico's Department of Education, State Agency of Child Nutrition will submit statewide waivers to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office (MARO) for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) flexibilities and policies that were rescinded by USDA Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) through SFSP 01-2019 Summer Food Service Program Memoranda Rescission and SP 04-2020, CACFP 03-2020, SFSP 03-2020 Meal Serving During and Unanticipated School Closure. SFSP's sponsors interested to request waivers, please submit application to the SA on January 15, 2020. The following areas will be submitted for consideration:

- Waiver Request 1 – Policy waiving first week SFSP site visits for returning sites that operated successfully the previous summer with no serious deficiency findings.
- Waiver Request 2 – Policy waiving first week SFSP site visits for School Food Authorities in good standing with their school breakfast (SBP) and/or lunch (NSLP) program(s).
- Waiver Request 3 – Policy waiving first week site visits for SFSP and NSLP Seamless Summer Option (SSO) sponsors in good standing with their NSLP and/or Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Waiver Request 4 – Policy extending the Offer Versus Serve (OVS) meal service model to non-SFA sponsors
- Waiver Request 5 – Policy waiving some meal time restrictions; specifically, the minimum amount of time that must pass between meals and snacks
- Waiver Request 6 – Policy waiving meal service during unanticipated school closure for 3 years with Summer Food Service Program and Summer Seamless Option

The goal of these waivers is to reinstate the rescinded flexibilities and policies to allow for efficient and cost-effective program management and reduce the administrative burden for sponsoring organizations and the PR's DOE SA. Information regarding the approval or denial of these waiver requests will be posted here and will be provided to all sponsors via email once USDA makes the determination. For more information, please contact Carmen M. Vega Nevárez, SFSP Coordinator at vega_car@de.pr.gov