



Date Issued	Waiver	Expiration Date
March 20, 2020	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Service Time Flexibility in Child Nutrition Programs	June 30, 2020 or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier
March 20, 2020	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Program	June 30, 2020 or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier
March 20, 2020	Nationwide Waiver of the Activity Requirement in Afterschool Care Child Nutrition Programs	June 30, 2020 or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier
March 25, 2020	Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children	June 30, 2020 or until expiration of the federally declared public health emergency, whichever is earlier

Nationwide waivers were issued by the United States Department of Agriculture to **support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to the novel coronavirus**. The Child Nutrition Response Act (H.R. 6201, Title II) permits the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a waiver for all States for the purposes of providing meals under the Child Nutrition Programs with **appropriate safety measures** as determined by the Secretary.

The South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS), informed USDA that it would participate in each of the Nationwide Waivers listed above. SCDSS provided notice to all CACFP institutions of the waiver by email and also by posting the documents on the website, www.scchildcare.org. Institutions must notify SCDSS CACFP if they elect to use one of more of the first three waivers listed above by completing the Institution Waiver Request form. This form will facilitate the compilation of data to be reported to USDA and will provide an organized method for SCDSS to provide technical assistance to institutions on their plans to use available waivers to maintain accountability and program integrity.

Institutions must receive approval from SCDSS to use the fourth waiver which allows parents/guardians to pick up meals for children enrolled in the child care center or adults enrolled in the adult care center.

General Requirements

- Institutions electing to use any of the Nationwide Waivers identified in this guidance must provide information to SCDSS which details how the waivers will be used/implemented.
- All facilities to be covered under the waiver must be approved for CACFP.
- Since the waivers are intended to allow institutions to serve meals to eligible participants, the estimated number of meals to be provided daily should be in line with the number of meals the facility is approved to serve. If the number is significantly different, an explanation should be included with the Waiver request.

- The distribution method must:
 - Incorporate recommended procedures for social distancing – 6 feet apart, limited contact, and will not promote/encourage large groups of individuals in one location
 - Identify how social distancing will be accomplished
 - Identify the meal types (breakfast, lunch, snack, supper) to be provided
 - Identify the days meals will be distributed by distribution method
 - Identify the number of meals which will be provided to each child or parent/guardian picking up for the child or adult in cases of adult facilities
 - Identify the time of day in which meals will be distributed as well as the length of time in which meals will be distributed
- The response must detail how the institution/facility will ensure meals and milk, if applicable, will be maintained at the appropriate temperature based on the menu items to be served.
- The response must identify what records will be maintained:
 - A sample form for meal pick-up should be provided with the request form.
 - If meals are delivered from a central kitchen or FSMC, delivery tickets must be maintained.
 - Attendance records are not required for facilities which are closed. However, dated (mmddyyyy) meal count records are required for all institutions/facilities that provide grab and go meals or home delivery meals. The record must identify the name of the enrolled participant, the number of meals picked up or delivered by type (breakfast, lunch, and snack) and the name of the individual receiving the meals if a parent/guardian receives the meal(s) on behalf of the enrolled participant.
 - If meals for multiple days are distributed at one time, this meal count record must reflect the meal count record for the day in which the meals are distributed.
 - Dated menus must be maintained. Menus must identify what is actually distributed and not just what was planned for distribution. Menus must support that the CACFP meal pattern will be met.
 - A sample of the menus to be used must be submitted with the waiver application.
 - Sample menus provided must agree with the meal types which are already approved for the institution or are allowable based on the program type.
- For child care, adult care and outside school hours centers, the meal types are limited to two meals and one snack or two snacks and one meal. For at-risk afterschool, the meal types are limited to snack and supper.
- If the institution plans to allow parents/guardian to pick up meals without having children or families for adults present, the institution's plan must identify the method to communicate this type action to parents/guardians/families.
- The institution's distribution method must ensure that meals are only distributed to parents or guardians of eligible participants. For child care and adult care centers, eligible participants are children or adults enrolled in the facility for care.
- The institution's distribution method will ensure that duplicate meals or meal type served by another USDA FNS program (i.e., school district) to the same population of children are not distributed to any child or adult
- The institution's distribution method must incorporate civil rights requirements.
 - The same meals will be provided to all children/adults
 - And Justice for All Poster will be displayed at the distribution location where it is easily visible to individuals participating in the grab and go distribution.

**South Carolina Department of Social Services
CACFP Waiver Request Guidance – Meal Service**



- All announcements about the meal service include the nondiscrimination statement.