

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM STATE WAIVER REQUEST

- **State agency submitting waiver request and responsible State agency staff contact information:**

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development
Child Nutrition Programs
Jo Dawson, Program Manager
PO Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811-0500
907-465-8708

- **Region:** Western Region
- **Eligible service providers participating in waiver and affirmation that they are in good standing:**

All Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Child Nutrition Program (DEED CNP) sponsors in good standing.

- **Description of the challenge the State agency is seeking to solve, the goal of the waiver to improve services under the Program, and the expected outcomes if the waiver is granted. [Section 12(I)(2)(A)(iii) and 12(I)(2)(A)(iv) of the NSLA]:**

We are requesting an extension on the conclusion date of COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #21 *Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for State Agencies in the Summer Food Service Program*; the current end date of 6/30/20 does not allow for the flexibility the state agency may require due to travel restrictions imposed by the State of Alaska for intrastate travel in Alaska Health Mandate 010 (<https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-mandates/>). While this mandate is in effect, Alaska Child Nutrition Programs requests an extension of the waiver in order to conduct monitoring in an off-site manner.

- **Specific Program requirements to be waived (include statutory and regulatory citations). [Section 12(I)(2)(A)(i) of the NSLA]:**

7 CFR 225.7(d)(2)(ii)

- **Detailed description of alternative procedures and anticipated impact on Program operations, including technology, State systems, and monitoring:**

While the health mandate is in effect restricting travel in Alaska, DEED/CNP will continue to conduct SFSP monitoring reviews in an off-site manner.

- **Description of any steps the State has taken to address regulatory barriers at the State level. [Section 12(I)(2)(A)(ii) of the NSLA]:**

No barriers have been identified at the state agency level. There are currently no state-level

regulatory barriers related to this specific issue. The state agency will conduct local community monitoring on-site as applicable, but eliminate travel during the health mandate restrictions.

- **Anticipated challenges State or eligible service providers may face with the waiver implementation:**

Alaska DEED CNP does not anticipate this waiver will present any challenges to the state agency or sponsoring organizations; however, off-site monitoring does provide its own unique challenges. The challenge Alaska DEED CNP may face if the waiver is not approved would primarily be out of compliance with USDA requirements.

- **Description of how the waiver will not increase the overall cost of the Program to the Federal Government. If there are anticipated increases, confirm that the costs will be paid from non-Federal funds. [Section 12(I)(1)(A)(iii) of the NSLA]:**

Alaska DEED CNP does not anticipate that this waiver will increase the overall cost of the program to the Federal government.

- **Anticipated waiver implementation date and time period:**

To be effective for the remainder of federal fiscal year 2020; to be revisited if COVID-19 remains an issue into the next federal fiscal year.

- **Proposed monitoring and review procedures:**

DEED CNP will continue to use the current monitoring forms; the state director will review for completeness.

- **Proposed reporting requirements (include type of data and due date(s) to FNS);**


DEED CNP will report to FNS by the following information by December 31st each year that the waiver is in place:

1. The number of sponsors monitored under the waiver
2. The number of sites monitored under the waiver

- **Link to or copy of the public notice informing the public about the proposed waiver [Section 12(I)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA]:**

[Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Child Nutrition Programs \(https://education.alaska.gov/cnp\)](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp)

- **Signature and Title of requesting official:**



Name: [Jo Dawson](#)

Title: Child Nutrition Programs Manager

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

TO BE COMPLETED BY FNS REGIONAL OFFICE:

FNS Regional Offices are requested to ensure the questions have been adequately addressed by the State agency and formulate an opinion and justification for a response to the waiver request based on their knowledge, experience and work with the State.

Date request was received at Regional Office:

Check this box to confirm that the State agency has provided public notice in accordance with Section 12(I)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA

Regional Office Analysis and Recommendations: