

Child Nutrition Program Waiver Request

Maine Child Nutrition DOE

Submitted March 25, 2020
CACFP Monitoring locally

1.State agency submitting waiver request and responsible State agency staff contact information:
Maine Child Nutrition Department of Education, Walter Beesley walter.beesley@maine.gov 207-624-6875

Walter Beesley
Child Nutrition DOE
136 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0136

2. Region: NERO

3. Eligible service providers participating in waiver and affirmation that they are in good standing:
The waiver request is for CACFP Sponsors in good standing.

4. 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(l)(2)(A)(iii) and 12(l)(2)(A)(iv) of the NSLA]: This request is to allow CACFP Sponsors to waive the requirement to monitor sponsored centers and family day care home providers during this time of unprecedented health risks that would occur from exposure to staff members and children in attendance at the sites.

5. Specific Program requirements to be waived (include statutory and regulatory citations). [Section 12(l)(2)(A)(i) of the NSLA]: The request is to waive all monitoring responsibilities and timelines outlined in 7 CFR 226.14(d)(4).

6. Detailed description of alternative procedures and anticipated impact on Program operations, including technology, State systems, and monitoring: Once it is safe to do so, normal monitoring operations would resume. The CACFP State Agency will direct all sponsors to prioritize monitoring of sites that have had findings in past monitoring visits, once regular monitoring can resume.

7. Description of any steps the State has taken to address regulatory barriers at the State level. [Section 12(l)(2)(A)(ii) of the NSLA]: Educate DOE and local administrators of current methods under Federal and State regulations and what the waiver would allow. There are currently no state level regulatory barriers that would impact this issue.

8. Anticipated challenges State or eligible service providers may face with the waiver implementation: Communication and education about the ability to waive monitoring. Guidance on how to determine which sites should be visited first once monitoring resumes.

9. 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(l)(1)(A)(iii) of the NSLA]: The waiver request is to allow sponsors to waive the monitoring visits and all duties associated with monitoring visits until it is safe to resume field work.

10. Anticipated waiver implementation date and time period: Implementation of the waiver would be immediate. It would end when State officials determine that social distancing is no longer required.

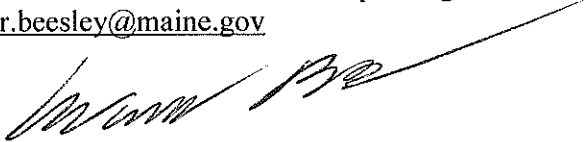
11. Proposed monitoring and review procedures: DOE CACFP staff will monitor implementation of this waiver. We are in constant contact with our CACFP sponsors through e-mail, webinars and telephone calls.

12. Proposed reporting requirements (include type of data and due date(s) to FNS): Maine DOE will track sponsors using this waiver. Documentation may be reviewed during Administrative reviews.

13. Link to or a copy of the public notice informing the public about the proposed waiver [Section 12(l)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA]: This will be shared on the Child Nutrition web page.

14. Signature and title of requesting official:

Director Child Nutrition Title: Requesting official's email address for transmission of response:
walter.beesley@maine.gov



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(l)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA

Regional Office Analysis and Recommendations: