

# ***Child Nutrition Program Waiver Request***

## ***Maine Child Nutrition DOE***

*Submitted 07/08/2020*

*Unanticipated school closure September 2020 Waiver*

**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](mailto:walter.beesley@maine.gov) 207-624-6875

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**2. Region: NERO**

**3. Eligible service providers participating in waiver and affirmation that they are in good standing:**

The waiver request is for NSLP and 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 Sponsors to use the unanticipated school closure waiver during September 2020.

**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 the timeframe of October to April unanticipated school closing in this unique time. 7CFR 225.6(b)

**6. Detailed description of alternative procedures and anticipated impact on Program operations, including technology, State systems, and monitoring:** Schools are planning for the fall 2021 school year. In the planning there is the concern of going back and having another unanticipated closing. Maine would like to be prepared and have this waiver ready to go if this should happen.

**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.

**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].** There is an expected increase in cost to the SFSP but a decrease in meals under the NSLP. The result cost is expected to be flat.

**10. Anticipated waiver implementation date and time period:** Implementation of the waiver would be August 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 until September 30, 2020.

**11. Proposed monitoring and review procedures:** DOE staff will monitor implementation of this waiver. We are in constant contact with our 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:**