



Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education



P.O. Box 1437, Slot S140 · Little Rock, AR 72203-1437
501-682-8590 · Fax: 501-683-6060 · TDD: 501-682-1550

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS
FROM: DCCECE / HNU
DATE: MARCH 30, 2020
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Nationwide Waiver of Monitoring Requirements for Sponsoring Organizations in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

This is an important notice regarding the recent COVID-19 Nationwide Waiver of Monitoring Requirements for Sponsoring Organizations in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

Nationwide Waiver of Monitoring Requirements for Sponsoring Organizations in the Child and Adult Care Food Program:

Under Program regulations at 226.16(d)(4)(iii), CACFP sponsoring organizations must review each facility three times each year and: 1) at least two of the three reviews must be unannounced; 2) at least one unannounced review must include observation of meal service; 3) at least one review must be made during each new facility's first four weeks of Program operations; and 4) not more than six months may elapse between reviews. However, FNS recognizes that in this public health emergency, suspending onsite monitoring is vital to support social distancing while providing meals. Additionally, with many CACFP facilities closed, monitoring CACFP may not be possible in some instances.

Therefore, FNS waives, for all CACFP sponsoring organizations that elect to be subject to this waiver, CACFP monitoring requirements as follows:

- FNS waives the requirement at 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii) that sponsoring organizations review each CACFP facility three times each year. **For a sponsor's current review year, CACFP sponsors may conduct two reviews of their CACFP facilities.**
- FNS waives the requirement at 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii)(A) that at least two of the three reviews must be unannounced. **For a sponsor's current review year, only one CACFP facility review is required to be unannounced.**
- FNS waives the requirement at 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii)(B) that at least one unannounced review must include observation of meal service.
- FNS waives the requirement at 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii)(D) that no more than six months may lapse between reviews.
- FNS does not waive 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii)(C) that at least one review must be made during each new facility's first four weeks of Program operations but **allows sponsoring organizations to review a new CACFP facility as a desk audit.**

Please keep this memo on file for quick and easy reference. A copy is also available on the resource library under HNP Mass Alerts and COVID-19 References. If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact your Program Coordinator at: 501-682-8869.