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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

**ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO NO. 1
SCHOOL YEAR 2019-2020**

SUBJECT: Purchasing of Federally Inspected Meat and Poultry for Use in Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs)

DATE: August 29, 2019

The purpose of this memo is to remind all operators of CNPs that sponsors must ensure food storage, preparation, and service is in accordance with the sanitation and health standards established under State and local law and regulations per [7 CFR 210.13\(a\) Health Standards](#).

The Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) requires that all meat sold commercially be inspected and passed to ensure that it is safe, wholesome, and properly labeled. The Office of Health and Nutrition Services is reminding School Food Authorities that all meat and poultry products used in schools be from inspected plants. Therefore, all meat and poultry products used in schools must be from inspected plants.

1. How do I know if the meat and poultry products I purchase are inspected?

FSIS inspects all raw meat and poultry products sold in interstate and foreign commerce, including imported products. Samples of inspection stamps are shown on the following page.

2. Can I purchase meats manufactured by retail stores under the Hotel, Restaurant, or Similar Institutions (HRI) exemption?

Schools do not typically meet the criteria for sales of meat products to household consumers in normal retail quantities, which is considered an HRI exemption. The HRI exemption is intended for purchases that will be used and consumed by households (grocery store purchase) or hotels or restaurants, or similar institutions.

The Office of Health and Nutrition Services does not allow the purchase of meats in retail stores under the HRI exemption, due to the inability for accurate traceability in the event of any food safety issues.

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Additional Resources:

Federal Inspection Summary Sheet:

[Summary of Federal Inspection Requirements for Meat Products](#)ⁱⁱ

HRI links:

[FSIS Retail Exemptions](#)ⁱⁱⁱ

Inspection Stamps



Inspection mark on raw meat



Inspection mark on raw poultry



Inspection mark on processed products



Inspection mark on imported meat or poultry products, excluding products from Canada

For further information about inspections and meat grading, please visit [USDA FSIS](#)^{iv} or [Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development \(MDARD\)](#).^v

Questions regarding this Administrative Memo may be directed to the School Nutrition Programs unit by e-mail to mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov.

ⁱ <https://www.fns.usda.gov/part-210%E2%80%9494national-school-lunch-program>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/e6658a9c-915f-4283-beaf-a827b35e906a/Fed-Food-Inspect-Requirements.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/5594f363-3417-4ccf-a363-c25a3b2f487a/2018-0009.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>

^{iv} <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/home>

^v https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/0,4610,7-125-50772_45851-272865--,00.html