



School Nutrition Programs (SNP) Bulletin

August 24, 2020 – School Nutrition Programs (SNP) Bulletin No. 5 – Michigan Department of Education to Request Federal Waivers for the National School Lunch Program’s Seamless Summer Option

Michigan Department of Education to Request Federal Waivers for the National School Lunch Program's Seamless Summer Option

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will request several federal waivers of statutory and regulatory requirements in the School Nutrition Programs (SNP), in accordance with federal guidance, on behalf of all School Food Authorities (SFAs) determined to be in good standing in the state of Michigan.

MDE is seeking to request statewide waivers for School Year 2020-2021 for the following:

- National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Seamless Summer Option during School Year 2020-2021.
- Area-eligibility for NSLP and School Breakfast Program (SBP) Seamless Summer Option.
- Non-congregate meal service, parent pickup, and adjustments to mealtime requirements for NSLP and SBP Seamless Summer Option.

- Meal pattern flexibility, Age/Grade group flexibility, and Milk-type requirements for NSLP and SBP Seamless Summer Option.

The waivers will minimize the burden for households to pay for NSLP and SBP meals during the school year, regardless of the meal service models. The waivers will also allow SFAs to provide free meals during the school year by waiving area-eligibility requirements.

These waivers will help minimize potential exposure to the pandemic by providing SFAs the flexibility to serve meals and snacks outside of the regular cafeteria settings. The waivers will also minimize the complexity of the meal pattern requirements for SFAs.

SNP SFAs will be required to notify MDE if they intend to elect to use the Seamless Summer Option in their schools. Upon approval of the waivers from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), further guidance will be issued to SFAs in Michigan.

Questions regarding this Bulletin, may be directed to the SNP unit by email to mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov.

Contact Us

Email: MDE-SchoolNutrition@Michigan.gov

Nutrition Gateway: The Michigan Department of Education [Nutrition Gateway](#) provides Child Nutrition Program (CNP) agencies a singular system to access annual CNP applications (MEGS+), monthly claims (MIND) and periodic administrative reviews (GEMS/MARS) through an integrated dashboard and portal.

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