



Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) Bulletin

June 21, 2021 - Child Nutrition Programs Bulletin No. 6 - NSLP and CACFP Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver for School Year 2021-2022

National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver for School Year 2021-2022

In an effort to help with planning for School Year 2021-2022, MDE decided to divide the Meal Pattern Flexibility waiver requests into two parts. The form for Part 1 of the [Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver Form for School Year 2021-2022](#) is now available. Use this form to request flexibilities in the National School Lunch Program (including SSO) for Target 2 sodium, 1% flavored milk, and/or 100% whole grain-rich for the 2021-2022 school year.

Reasons for allowing 1% flavored milk and serving less than all items as whole grain-rich will be required. Reasons should be targeted and justified with a demonstrated need based on plans to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to COVID-19, or because of student acceptability. The form will be approved on a case-by-case basis for each sponsor.

A second form (Part 2) will be available later in the summer for additional options listed in [USDA Waiver #90](#).

The School Nutrition Program Part 1 form to complete is found at [MDE Meal Pattern Waiver Request Form for School Year 2021-2022](#)

Please keep your students' health and well-being in mind and seek to meet the meal pattern requirements to the greatest extent possible.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

The Meal Pattern Flexibility [waiver request form](#) for CACFP is now available. Complete this form to request the following items:

- Waive the requirement to serve one whole grain rich item per day.
- Waive the requirement to begin using ounce equivalents to measure grain servings by October 1, 2021.
- Waive the requirement of only serving fat free flavored milk (allows 1% flavored milk for participants ages 6 and up).

CACFP Sponsors will need to provide targeted, justified reasons for their request(s). Reasons are to demonstrate specific need based on the Sponsor's plans to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to COVID-19. Requests will be approved on a case-by-case basis for each sponsor.

Please keep your participants' health and well-being in mind and seek to meet the meal pattern requirements to the greatest extent possible. All CACFP meal pattern requirements remain in effect unless a waiver is approved.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program form is found at [CACFP Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver Request](#).

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 (MEGSplus), monthly claims (MIND) and periodic administrative reviews (GEMS/MARS) through an integrated dashboard and portal.

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1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
2. fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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USDA Civil Rights Complaint Links:

https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf
<https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint>

Links Used in This Document:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=h3D71Xc3rUKWaoku9HII0adBQqBF3EpMrfJJyRNd7ZFUNTdCWDIaVVM3SVFSMzc3TFEwV1c1Qk9BMS4u>
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/child-nutrition-response-90>
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=h3D71Xc3rUKWaoku9HII0adBQqBF3EpMrfJJyRNd7ZFURUdTSUo1Q0dFNUw1M1VNTFVLWUZKSjc5SC4u>
<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gateway/Authentication/LoginClick>