



**Georgia Dept
of Early Care
and Learning**
BRIGHT FROM THE START

May 18, 2023

Greetings CACFP Sponsors and Institutions,

Pursuant to a February 9, 2023 declaration by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) came to an end on **May 11, 2023**.

The Administration planned for the COVID-19 PHE to expire on that date. As a result of the end of the PHE, many flexibilities that have been available to CACFP institutions and sponsors have ended or will soon come to an end.

CACFP Nationwide Waivers Ending

The following CACFP Nationwide Waivers have either expired or will soon expire.

- Onsite Monitoring Requirements for Sponsors in the CACFP: The onsite monitoring waiver waived the requirement that CACFP monitoring requirements be conducted onsite. **This flexibility remains in affect until 30 days after the end of the PHE which is June 10, 2023.**
- Reimbursement for Meals and Snacks Served to Young Adults in the CACFP: This flexibility allowed for the reimbursement for meals and snacks served to young people, ages 19-24, in emergency shelters participating in the CACFP. **This flexibility came to an end on May 11, 2023, the end of the PHE.**

As a result of the end of the PHE, Nutrition Services does not anticipate any further CACFP Nationwide Waivers being issued by USDA.

CACFP Statewide Waivers Ending

Due to the emergency authority, allowing USDA to offer nationwide waivers in response to COVID-19, coming to an end on June 30, 2022, DECAL applied and was approved on July 1, 2022 to use certain waiver flexibilities statewide; however, these **CACFP Statewide Waivers will be expiring June 30, 2023**. Those soon-to-be expiring waivers are as follows:

- Non-Congregate Meal Services
- Parent/Guardian Meal Pickup
- Meal Service Times

As a result of the end of the PHE, Nutrition Services does not anticipate USDA providing additional opportunities to request statewide waivers for the above-mentioned flexibilities.

CACFP Reimbursements

The Keep Kids Fed Act of 2022 provided an additional 10 cents for each meal and supplement served in the CACFP and allowed tier II day care homes to be reimbursed at the tier I rate beginning July 1, 2022. **Both allowances will come to an end on June 30, 2023.**

As a result of the end of the PHE, Nutrition Services does not anticipate USDA extending these allowances.

Area Eligibility Flexibilities Ending for CACFP At-Risk Afterschool and Family Day Care Homes

On May 13, 2022, USDA issued the memorandum, [Area Eligibility for Summer 2022 and School Year 2022-2023](#). This memorandum provided guidance on the transition from COVID-19 Nationwide waivers related to the establishment of area eligibility in Child Nutrition Programs for summer 2022 and SY 2022-2023.

In SY 2021-2022 many schools participated in the Nationwide waiver to operate the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) during SY 2021-2022 and did not have to complete free and reduced eligibility information. This resulted in an absence of complete SY 2021-2022 free and reduced-price school data.

As school data and census data are the primary sources used to determine area eligibility in the CACFP, the USDA advised that Program operators could use one of the following two options with regards to school data:

- Use school data from SY 2019-2020 to determine area eligibility.
- School Food Authorities (SFAs) could use Community Eligibility Provision Data (CEP). Once area eligibility data is established, all NSLP afterschool snack programs, SSO, CACFP at-risk afterschool and family day care homes, and SFSP operators could establish sites based on the determination.

This flexibility was applicable to School Year 2022-2023. At this time, Nutrition Services does not anticipate this flexibility being applied to School Year 2023-2024.

CACFP Policy Update on Monitoring

As a result of the end of the PHE, on April 6, 2023, USDA issued the guidance *Oversight and Monitoring of the Child and Adult Care Food Program – Guidance on On-site and Off-site Strategies and Options*.

This memorandum can be found [here](#) and outlines monitoring procedures that may be conducted off-site for both State agencies and sponsors and those aspects of monitoring that must be performed on-site as per regulations.

For questions, please contact [Robyn Parham](#).

Regards,

Nutrition Services

Together, we can help feed Georgia's Children & Adults.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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