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Governor

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Commissioner

**PUBLIC NOTICE:
CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM
STATE WAIVER REQUEST
January 26, 2026**

In accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Nutrition Services (FNS) policy memorandum, CACFP12-2018, SFSP05-2018 - *Child Nutrition Program Waiver Request Guidance and Protocol-Revised*, May 24, 2018, the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) is seeking approval for waivers of statutory and/or regulatory Program requirements.

Waiver requests will be submitted to the USDA FNS Southeast Regional Office (SERO) for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The waivers listed below are intended to provide needed flexibility to support institutions in continuing to offer nutritious meals to participants fasting to observe Ramadan. These waivers are applicable to emergency shelters, adult day care centers, outside-school-hours care centers (OSHCC), and the at-risk afterschool component of the CACFP only.

- (1) Non-Congregate Meal Service (CACFP) (42 U.S.C. 1766(f)(1)(A) and 7 CFR 226.19(b)(6)(iii). CACFP meals must be served in a congregate setting and must be consumed by participants on site.
- (2) Meal Service Times (CACFP) (7 CFR 226.20(k)). Meals served in the CACFP must follow meal service time requirements.

Copies of the official requests can be found here:
<https://www.decal.ga.gov/CACFP/WaiverRequests.aspx>

For additional information, please contact Melissa Stanley, Policy Administrator, at
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