

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM STATE WAIVER REQUEST

1. State agency submitting waiver request and responsible State agency staff contact information:

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development
Child Nutrition Programs
Jo Dawson, Program Manager
PO Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811-0500
907-465-8708

2. Region: Western Region

3. Eligible service providers participating in waiver and affirmation that they are in good standing:

Anchorage School District

4. Description of the challenge the State agency is seeking to solve, the goal of the waiver to improve services under the Program, and the expected outcomes if the waiver is granted. [Section 12(I)(2)(A)(iii) and 12(I)(2)(A)(iv) of the NSLA]:

In preparation for district response for COVID-19; the Anchorage School District is requesting a waiver for non-congregate meal service in low-income school areas as a result of unanticipated school closure to reinforce social distancing.

5. Specific Program requirements to be waived (include statutory and regulatory citations). [Section 12(I)(2)(A)(i) of the NSLA]:

7 CFR 225.6(3)(15) "Maintain children on site while meals are consumed"

6. Detailed description of alternative procedures and anticipated impact on Program operations, including technology, State systems, and monitoring:

Anchorage School District (ASD) will provide meals at Title One/CEP school sites. The meals will be pre-packaged and provided in a grab-and-go manner. ASD is further requesting to allow one member of the family pick up meals for all students to further limit congregation in the service line. ASD received a similar non-congregate waiver after the November 2018 magnitude 7.1 earthquake which shut down many of the district's sites for an extended period of time.

7. Description of any steps the State has taken to address regulatory barriers at the State level. [Section 12(I)(2)(A)(ii) of the NSLA]:

DEED is encouraged that ASD is developing contingency plans; as the largest district in Alaska, they meet the nutritional needs of a large number of Alaskan students. ASD will need to maintain standard record documentation such as POS meal count, menus, production records, etc. and only count meals served to children for reimbursement.

8. Anticipated challenges State or eligible service providers may face with the waiver implementation:

None at this time.

9. Description of how the waiver will not increase the overall cost of the Program to the Federal Government. If there are anticipated increases, confirm that the costs will be paid from non-Federal funds. [Section 12(I)(1)(A)(iii) of the NSLA]:

There is no anticipated increase in costs to the federal government. If all 83 schools are closed, only a portion of the students will be served through this manner who normally would have been receiving school breakfast, lunch, and afterschool snack.

10. Anticipated waiver implementation date and time period: For the remainder of the federal fiscal year, to be revisited if COVID-19 remains an issue.

11. Proposed monitoring and review procedures: DEED does not plan on conducting any additional monitoring as a result of the waiver, but may review documentation from these meal services at a regularly scheduled SFSP (or NSLP) review; such as meal count forms, production records, and cycle menus.

12. Proposed reporting requirements: DEED will review final meal counts when they are submitted with claims for reimbursement in the SFSP Child Nutrition Database. Additionally DEED will report this data in the FNS 418 reports and fulfill any additional WRO/FNS data requests.

13. Link to or a copy of the public notice informing the public about the proposed waiver [Section 12(I)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA]:

[Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Child Nutrition Programs \(https://education.alaska.gov/cnp\)](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp)

14. Signature and title of requesting official:



Name: [Jo Dawson](#)

Title: Child Nutrition Programs Manager

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

TO BE COMPLETED BY FNS REGIONAL OFFICE:

FNS Regional Offices are requested to ensure the questions have been adequately addressed by the State agency and formulate an opinion and justification for a response to the waiver request based on their knowledge, experience and work with the State.

Date request was received at Regional Office:

- Check this box to confirm that the State agency has provided public notice in accordance with Section 12(I)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA**

Regional Office Analysis and Recommendations: