

## USDA Extends Three Flexibilities for Summer

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) announced the extension of three nationwide waivers through Aug. 31 to provide flexibility for child nutrition program sponsors.

- **Non-Congregate Feeding:** FNS is allowing meals to be served to children outside of the normally-required group setting to support social distancing.
- **Parent Pickup:** FNS is allowing parents and/or guardians to pick up meals and bring them home to their children.
- **Meal Times:** FNS is waiving requirements that meals be served at certain standard times to allow for grab-n-go options. This also allows for multiple days-worth of meals to be provided at once.

Please note that this extension does not include all nationwide waivers for the COVID-19 response.

In addition to the waiver extensions above, USDA also extended the [nationwide waiver to allow meal pattern flexibility](#) currently allowed through May 31, 2020, to June 30, 2020.

Also note that the ISBE's state requested [waiver to suspend area eligibility requirements](#) is through June 30. USDA did not extend the state specific area eligibility waiver, at this time. ISBE is working directly with USDA on this state specific waiver and will provide additional information soon.

We will announce other updates as they become available. Watch for announcements under What's New? at [www.isbe.net/nutrition](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition) and reference our [COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response Waivers and Q&As document](#).

Illinois State Board of Education Nutrition Department staff is available to assist with questions and concerns from our districts/sponsors. Please reach out to us at [cnp@isbe.net](mailto:cnp@isbe.net). Thank you for all you're doing to feed students in need during these challenging times.

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