

## Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver Extended for SFSP

On July 30, the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued a [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Summer Food Service Program](#). This effectively extends the waiver through the remainder of summer for sponsors operating SFSP. It was set to expire July 31.

Schools and community organizations operating USDA-funded Child Nutrition Programs at this time are required to follow the meal pattern of the program in which they are operating. If, however, there are extenuating circumstances that do not allow a specific requirement of the meal pattern to be met, the USDA has allowed state agencies an option to offer a waiver on a case by case basis.

ISBE has heard of some challenges to date and will offer this case by case waiver option [via a simple online form](#). Please maintain documentation of the meal components as offered (menu, production records, invoices, etc.) and continue to provide children meals to the best of your ability.

*Nutrition Department, Illinois State Board of Education*  
100 N. First St., Springfield, IL 62777  
[cnp@isbe.net](mailto:cnp@isbe.net), [www.isbe.net/nutrition](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition)