

USDA Extends Waivers to June 30, 2021

The Illinois State Board of Education Nutrition Department is excited to share that the U.S. Department of Agriculture just announced waiver extensions that will allow schools to operate Summer Meals programs through the end of School Year 2020-21, offering free meals to students. This changes the expiration from Dec. 31, 2020, to June 30, 2021.

No action is required at this point in time by sponsors due to this announcement. Last month, Illinois sponsors were asked to complete the [Survey to Operate in the National School Lunch Program or Summer Meals for School Year 2020-21](#). If you have any questions, please email Nutrition staff at cnp@isbe.net. Here is a complete list of the waivers the USDA extended on Friday, Oct. 9, for reference and review:

- [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option Operations Through School Year 2020-2021 – EXTENSION](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver to Extend Area Eligibility Waivers – EXTENSION 3](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Feeding in the Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option – EXTENSION 5](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children – EXTENSION 5](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option – EXTENSION 8](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites in the Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option – EXTENSION 2](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver to Waiver First Week Site Visits in the Summer Food Service Program – EXTENSION 2](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restrictions in the Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option – EXTENSION 2](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer Versus Serve Flexibilities in the Summer Food Service Program – EXTENSION 2](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver of Area Eligibility in the Child and Adult Care Food Program At-Risk Afterschool Care Component – EXTENSION](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Reimbursement for Meals Served Prior to Notification of Approval and Provide Flexibility for Pre-Approval Visits in the Summer Food Service Program – EXTENSION](#)
- [Nationwide Waiver to Allow Meal Pattern Flexibility in the Child Nutrition Programs – EXTENSION 5](#)

For a list of previous COVID-19 waivers and flexibilities in Illinois, visit the USDA website at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic/covid-19/illinois> and scroll down to the “Child Nutrition Programs” section. Please visit and bookmark www.isbe.net/nutrition for What’s New? announcements and resources from the ISBE Nutrition Department.

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