

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

Waiver for Program Requirements in the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, Summer Food Service Program, and the Child and Adult Care Food Program

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

Illinois State Board of Education
 100 N. First Street
 Springfield, IL 62777
 Mark Haller, Director
 Nutrition Department
mhaller@isbe.net
 (217) 728-2491

2. Region:

Midwest Region

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

This waiver will be available to any school food authority in good standing electing to participate in the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) in Illinois.

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(l)(2)(A)(iii) and 12(l)(2)(A)(iv) of the NSLA]:

Illinois recently passed a legislation to create the Healthy School Meals for All program, pending appropriation. Schools that want to participate in this new state program must maximize CEP participation. An extension of the deadline to elect CEP participation will allow schools and ISBE the additional time needed to onboard new CEP participants for school year 2023-24.

Goal and Expected outcome of the Waiver

An extension of the deadline to elect CEP participation will allow schools and ISBE the additional time needed to onboard new CEP participants for school year 2023-24.

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

June 30 election date under Section 11(a)(1)(F)(x)(I) of the NSLA, 42 U.S.C. 1759a and FNS regulations at 7 CFR 245.9(f)(4)(i)

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

CEP Requirement	Annual Deadline	Waiver Deadline
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Elect CEP for SY 2023-2024	June 30	September 30, 2023
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Adjust CEP system to allow submission of CEP until September 30, 2023. If approved, there are no significant impacts on technology, state systems, or monitoring.

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

There are currently no state level regulatory barriers related to this specific issue.

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

ISBE does not anticipate that the establishment of this waiver will pose any challenges at the state or sponsor level.

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(l)(1)(A)(iii) of the NSLA]:

The waiver will not increase the overall cost of the program to the Federal Government.

10. Anticipated waiver implementation date and time period:

May 1, 2023 – October 1, 2023

11. Proposed monitoring and review procedures:

Monitoring of SFAs participating in CEP will continue as usual.

12. Proposed reporting requirements (include type of data and due date(s) to FNS):

By June 30, 2024, ISBE will send the following data to USDA:

- o A description of how the waiver impacted NSLP and SBP operations in CEP participating schools;
- o A description of whether the waiver resulted in improved services to children; and
- o The number of LEAs that used the waiver.

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

<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Waivers-Public-Notices.aspx>

14. Signature and title of requesting official:



Mark R. Haller
Director, Nutrition

Requesting official's email address for transmission of response: mhaller@isbe.net

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(l)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA**

- Regional Office Analysis and Recommendation**