



## Summer Feeding Requirements – Summer 2022 Comparison Table

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is offering this comparison table to assist State agencies and program operators as they transition from operations under COVID-19 nationwide waivers to operations designed around their own unique circumstances. For Summer 2022, Summer Food Service Program and National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option operations, State agencies have the choice to return to normal, pre-COVID operations or to seek flexibilities through submission of individual State waivers authorized by Section 12(l) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. Please note that FNS expects that Program operators will only use certain waivers when congregate meal service is limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. Specific information for each waiver is provided in the table.

Topic	What You Could Do Using COVID Nationwide Waivers (including waiver #)	Options Available for Summer 2022 Operations
Certification		
Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites	<a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Area Eligibility for Closed Enrolled Sites for Summer 2021 Operations – EXTENSION 3   Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)</a> allowed all States to establish eligibility for Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option closed enrolled sites through area eligibility methods, instead of the collection of free and reduced-price meal applications.	<p>Establish the eligibility of closed enrolled sites through the collection of free and reduced-price meal applications.</p> <p>States may request an individual 12(l) waiver<sup>1</sup> for Summer 2022<sup>2</sup> to establish site eligibility for closed enrolled sites using area eligibility methods.</p>
Site Eligibility	<a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Feeding for Summer 2021 Operations – EXTENSION 6   Food and Nutrition Service</a>	<p>Return to using site eligibility requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open sites: Must be located in areas where more than 50% of</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> An individual 12(l) waiver is an approved waiver request submitted by an individual State agency through the process outlined in Section 12(l) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, and FNS' policy guidance, *Child Nutrition Program Waiver Request Guidance and Protocol – Revised*, memo code SP15 CACFP12 SFSP05-2018. An Individual, 12(l) waiver may be approved for a State agency or an eligible service provider.

<sup>2</sup> The waiver of closed enrolled site eligibility for Summer 2022 has an effective period of May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023.

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	<p><a href="https://www.usda.gov">usda.gov</a> waived the definition of “areas in which poor economic conditions exist”, allowing all States to establish their own area eligibility plans for any Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option programs and sites.</p>	<p>the children are from households that would be eligible for free and reduced-price meals based on school or census data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closed enrolled sites: More than 50% of enrolled participants must be documented as free and reduced-price eligible.</li> </ul> <p>Note the requirements are different for camps and migrant sites.</p> <p>States may request an individual 12(l) waiver for Summer 2022<sup>3</sup> to establish site eligibility for closed enrolled sites using area eligibility methods.</p>
Meal Service		
Non-congregate	<p><a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Feeding for Summer 2021 Operations – EXTENSION 6   Food and Nutrition Service</a>  <a href="https://www.usda.gov">usda.gov</a> allowed non-congregate meal service for the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option, allowing children to eat meals offsite.</p>	<p>Congregate meal service is required (children must be served and eat each meal on site in a supervised setting).</p> <p>States may request an individual 12(l) waiver of congregate meal service requirements for Summer 2022<sup>4</sup>.</p>
Meal Times	<p><a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Meal Service Time Restrictions for Summer 2021 Operations – EXTENSION 3   Food and Nutrition</a></p>	<p>Meal times must be established for each meal, and only one meal may be served during each service time.</p>

<sup>3</sup> The waiver of closed enrolled site eligibility for Summer 2022 has an effective period of May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023.

<sup>4</sup> The waiver of the congregate meal service requirement has an effective period of May 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022. FNS expects that flexibilities provided under the congregate meal service Section 12(l) waiver will only be implemented by Program operators when congregate meal service is limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. Local Program operators, in collaboration with the State agency, are best positioned to determine to what extent these waivers are needed.

Topic	What You Could Do Using COVID Nationwide Waivers (including waiver #)	Options Available for Summer 2022 Operations
	<p><a href="https://www.usda.gov">Service (usda.gov)</a> suspended federal mealtime restrictions for the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option, allowing states to approve more than one meal to be served at a time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites could distribute meals for multiple days at one time, generally up to one week.</li> <li>• Meal distribution or delivery times still had to be established.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer Food Service Program: three hours must elapse between the beginning of one meal service, including snacks, and the beginning of another meal service, except that four hours must elapse between lunch and supper if no snack is served.</li> <li>• Seamless Summer Option: breakfast must be served in the morning; lunch must be served between 10am-2pm; supper service must begin before 7pm and end by 8pm; snacks must be adequately spaced between meals.</li> </ul> <p>States may request an individual 12(l) waiver of the meal time requirements for Summer 2022<sup>5</sup>.</p>
Parent/Guardian Pick Up	<p><a href="https://www.usda.gov">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children for Summer 2021 Operations – EXTENSION 6   Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)</a> allowed parents or guardians to pick-up Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option meals on an eligible child's behalf.</p>	<p>Meals must be served directly only to eligible children.</p> <p>States may request an individual 12(l) waiver to allow parents/guardians to pick up meals on an eligible child's behalf during Summer 2022<sup>6</sup>.</p>
Claiming & Reimbursements		
Meal Reimbursement – Seamless Summer Option	<p><a href="https://www.usda.gov">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Summer Food Service Program</a></p>	Meals must be claimed at the current National School Lunch and

<sup>5</sup> The waiver of the meal time requirements for Summer 2022 has an effective period of May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023.

<sup>6</sup> The waiver to allow parent pick up of meals for Summer 2022 has an effective period of May 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022. FNS expects that flexibilities provided under the parent pick up Section 12(l) waiver will only be implemented by Program operators when congregate meal service is limited by the COVID-19 pandemic. Local Program operators, in collaboration with the State agency, are best positioned to determine to what extent these waivers are needed.

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	<a href="#">Reimbursement Rates in SY 2021-22   Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)</a> allowed school food authorities to claim National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option meals and snacks at the Summer Food Service Program reimbursement rates.	School Breakfast Program reimbursement rates.
Meal Requirements	<a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Allow Offer Versus Serve Flexibilities in the Summer Food Service Program for Summer 2021 Operations – EXTENSION 3   Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)</a> allowed all State agencies to approve the use of Offer Versus Serve meal parameters by both school food authority and non-School Food Authority sponsors using the Summer Food Service Program meal pattern. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer Versus Serve was not recommended for non-congregate meals, but could be used if the site could do so safely and correctly.</li> </ul>	Operators must follow the meal patterns for each program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer Food Service Program: Must follow the Summer Food Service Program meal pattern.</li> <li>• Seamless Summer Option: Must follow the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs meal patterns.</li> <li>• Offer Versus Serve is permitted only for school food authority sponsors.</li> </ul> States may request an individual 12(l) waiver to allow OVS for Summer Food Service Program for Summer 2022 <sup>7</sup> .
Monitoring & Reporting		
First Week Site Visits	<a href="#">Nationwide Waiver to Waive First Week Site Visits in the Summer Food Service Program for Summer 2021 Operations – EXTENSION 3   Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)</a> allowed sponsors to not visit each of their Summer Food Service Program sites at least once during the first week of	States must return to conducting first week site visits.  States may request an individual 12(l) waiver of the first week site visit requirement for Summer 2022. <sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup> The waiver to allow OVS for Summer 2022 has an effective period of May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023.

<sup>8</sup> The waiver of the first week site visit requirement for Summer 2022 has an effective period of May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023.

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	operation under the program, for sites that operated successfully in the previous year and sponsors that successfully participated in the Child and Adult Care Food Program or the National School Lunch Program.	
Onsite Monitoring Requirements	<a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for Sponsoring Organizations in the SFSP – Extension 2   Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)</a> and <a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of Onsite Monitoring Requirements for State Agencies in the SFSP – Extension 2   Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)</a> allowed Summer Food Service Program sponsoring organizations and State agencies the ability to complete required monitoring offsite.	States may request a 12(I) waiver of onsite monitoring requirements for both the State agency and sponsoring organizations through submission of a monitoring plan for Summer 2022.
Half Aggregate Monitoring Requirement	<a href="#">Nationwide Waiver of the Annual Half Aggregate Monitoring Requirement in the Summer Food Service Program   Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)</a> waived the requirement that State agencies annually review a number of Summer Food Service Program sponsors whose program reimbursements, in the aggregate, account for at least one half of the total program reimbursements in the State in the previous year.	COVID-19 waiver #99 was issued in September 2021 and is in effect currently, through September 30, 2022.