

**TO** Sponsors of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)

**FROM** Vonda Ramp, M.S., R.D. *Vonda K. Ramp*  
State Director, Child Nutrition Programs

**DATE** May 13, 2020

**RE** USDA Waiver Request to Allow Parents or Guardians to Pick Up  
FFVP for Children During COVID-19 Related School Closure

**MESSAGE:**

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is seeking a waiver from USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to waive the requirement that children be present to receive FFVP produce items when served in a non-congregate setting. This aligns with how other Child Nutrition Programs are operating during COVID-19 and would allow the continued provision of nutritious fruits and vegetables to children while maintaining social distancing efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

This is a required public notice that PDE submitted a request to USDA for a waiver of the requirement in USDA FNS Memo SP12-2020 *Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program During COVID-19* released on April 9, 2020, Question 4, and does not imply the waiver has been approved at this time.

Questions may be directed to Vonda Ramp at [vramp@pa.gov](mailto:vramp@pa.gov).