

TO Sponsors of School Nutrition Programs

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

DATE July 28, 2020

RE Pennsylvania Department of Education 21-Day Menu Waiver Request to USDA

MESSAGE:

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is seeking the following waiver from USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) for School Year 2020-2021. The intent of this waiver is to help School Food Authorities (SFA) that contract with a Food Service Management Company (FSMC) deal with the complexities of serving reimbursable meals during the novel coronavirus pandemic.

21-Day Cycle Menu

PDE is requesting a waiver of the regulation 7 CFR §210.16 (b)(1) that requires FSMCs to adhere to the 21-day cycle menu, contained in the Request For Proposal, on which its bid was based, for the first 21 days of meal service.

The SFA would have to agree to any changes to the 21-day menu and the revised menu and Projected Operating Cost document must be submitted to PDE prior to the start of meal service.

This is a required public notice that PDE submitted a request to USDA for this waiver and does not imply the waiver has been approved at this time.

Questions may be directed to Vonda Ramp at vramp@pa.gov.