

TO Sponsors of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

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

DATE July 21, 2021 revision, original memo dated May 19, 2021

RE Pennsylvania Department of Education Waiver Request to USDA
for Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Operation at Alternate Sites
and for Parent or Guardian Pick-up in School Year 2021-2022

MESSAGE:

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is seeking the following waivers from USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) regarding operation of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) in School Year 2021-2022:

- To allow School Food Authorities that operate the FFVP to distribute FFVP at sites other than approved FFVP elementary schools in the case of awarded schools not operating as meal distribution locations so that children who would typically receive FFVP may continue to do so if there is no meal service at their usual elementary school.

This is a required public notice that PDE submitted a request to USDA for a waiver of the requirement in the National School Lunch Act, Section 19(a) that each school selected to participate in FFVP be an elementary school, and does not imply the waiver has been approved at this time.

- To allow school food authorities that operate FFVP to distribute FFVP items to parents or guardians.

This is a required public notice that PDE submitted a request to USDA for a waiver of the requirement that FFVP be distributed only to students (National School Lunch Act, Section 19(b) so that, if provided for students engaged in distance learning, the FFVP item could be distributed to parents/guardians regardless of whether the student is present.

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