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| **March 13, 2020** |

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| **Important Update** |

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| On March 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), announced program requirement flexibilities that would allow schools, child care institutions, and community organizations to provide meals to low-income children through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option (SSO) during school closures related to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19). While the department awaits approval of its waiver to benefit from this flexibility, letters of intention to provide meals during school closures may be submitted to FDACS with the following information:* A list of the sites that would be activated to serve meals;
* At what point following school dismissal the meal service would start;
* The estimated number of children to be served;
* Time(s) in which meals will be served;
* Type(s) of meals to be served (i.e., breakfast, lunch, snack, and/or supper)
* What meal distribution method(s) the institution will use and how the waiver will target the children in the dismissed schools;
* How the meal distribution will target low-income children, if the school does not have 50 percent or more free or reduced price children enrolled;
* Methods for communicating with families;
* How the schools, child care institutions, and community organizations will ensure proper operation of the program including meal content, meal counts, food safety, oversight, etc.; and
* The contact person for the School District or sponsor regarding service of emergency meals.

The intent to serve must be provided in writing along with the application to participate in SFSP or SSO.The department will provide an expedited approval of applications using the following tiered priority system: * School Districts, as defined in section 595.402(5), F.S., operating the National School Lunch Program with current agreements to operate the Summer Food Service Program or Seamless Summer Option
* Government and private non-profit organization sponsors that have successfully operated the SFSP/SSO in a prior year

For more information on these flexibilities, please contact us at InfoFNW@FDACS.gov.   |

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| This institution is an equal opportunity provider. |

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