



(Provided to Sponsors December 2014)

SFSP Update – Summer Food Service Program Waiver Request Guidance and Protocol

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) released [SFSP 09-2015](#) Summer Food Service Program Waiver Request Guidance and Protocol on December 12, 2014. The purpose of the memorandum is to provide guidance and introduce new procedures for requesting SFSP waivers. This memorandum supersedes SFSP 01-99, *Sponsor and Site Application Requirements*, December 4, 1998.

Waivers are used to support the state agency and sponsor innovation to improve access to the SFSP. USDA may approve waivers, when it determines that:

- it supports the purpose and intent of the SFSP,
- the state or sponsor provided notice and information to the public regarding the proposed waiver, and
- the request demonstrates the waiver will not increase the overall cost of the program to the federal government, and if it does increase the cost, the cost will be paid from non-federal funds.

USDA cannot approve waivers that relate to the following:

- the nutritional content of meals,
- Federal reimbursement rates,
- eligibility for free meals,
- distribution of funds to state agencies and sponsors,
- disclosure of individual income eligibility information, prohibition of the operation of a profit producing program,
- the commodity distribution program, and
- enforcement of any constitutional or statutory right of an individual.

Please direct all your questions to Jennifer Mitchell, Summer Food Supervisor.

SFSP 09-2015 is also available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/policy>