



CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM INDIANA WAIVER REQUEST

1. State agency submitting waiver request and responsible State agency staff contact information:

**Indiana Department of Education
100 N Senate Ave, 9th Floor
Indianapolis, IN 46204
School & Community Nutrition Programs
Marcia Yurczyk, Assistant Director
myurczyk@doe.in.gov; 317-232-0852**

2. Region: MWRO

3. Eligible service providers participating in waiver and affirmation that they are in good standing:

The Indiana Department of Education, Office of School & Community Nutrition, is in good standing with the USDA Midwest Regional and National Offices. This waiver to be applied only to those Local Education Authorities (LEA) and/or School Food Authorities (SFA) considered to be in good standing. Upon determination by the State Agency, sponsors requiring closer monitoring will continue to be reviewed more frequently.

4. Description of the challenge the State agency is seeking to solve, the goal of the waiver to improve services under the Program, and the expected outcomes if the waiver is granted. [Section 12(l)(2)(A)(iii) and 12(l)(2)(A)(iv) of the NSLA]:

The Indiana State Agency has determined that the 3-year review cycle hinders effective allocation of the state agency's resources, and effective and efficient program management. To improve customer service and accommodate the vast number of new food service directors requiring additional training, the Indiana State Agency is petitioning FNS for approval of the waiver of the 3-year review requirement and extend the current review cycle to a 4-year review cycle, provided that each school food authority is reviewed at least once every 5 years.

5. Specific Program requirements to be waived (include statutory and regulatory citations). [Section 12(l)(2)(A)(i) of the NSLA]: 7 CFR 210.18(c)

State agencies must conduct administrative reviews of all school food authorities participating in the National School Lunch Program (including the Afterschool Snacks and the Seamless Summer Option) and School Breakfast Program at least once during a 3-year review cycle, provided that each school food authority is reviewed at least once every 4 years.



6. Detailed description of alternative procedures and anticipated impact on Program operations, including technology, State systems, and monitoring:

The State Agency will continue to follow all FNS guidance regarding monitoring and oversight of program sponsors. State Agency staff will continue to provide technical assistance and training resources to sponsors during Administrative Reviews, and will add additional follow up reviews, where necessary, in order to ensure continued program integrity. State technology, state systems and normal monitoring requirements will not be affected by this additional flexibility, if granted.

7. Description of any steps the State has taken to address regulatory barriers at the State level. [Section 12(l)(2)(A)(ii) of the NSLA]:

There are no current or anticipated regulatory barriers at the State level regarding this specific waiver.

8. Anticipated challenges State or eligible service providers may face with the waiver implementation:

IDOE does not anticipate that the establishment of this statewide waiver will pose any challenges at the state of sponsor level.

9. Description of how the waiver will not increase the overall cost of the Program to the Federal Government. If there are anticipated increases, confirm that the costs will be paid from non-Federal funds. [Section 12(l)(1)(A)(iii) of the NSLA]:

This waiver, as outlined, will not increase the overall cost of the program to the Federal Government.

10. Anticipated waiver implementation date and time period:

The effective date of this waiver will be July 1, 2022, or upon approval by USDA, whichever comes first, and will remain in effect for four years, June 30, 2026.

11. Proposed monitoring and review procedures:

Monitoring of sponsors performance under the requested waivers will follow administrative review regulations for School Nutrition Programs. This practice will be consistent with 7 CFR 210, 215, and 220 and include the following:

- Create a review cycle that will include all SFAs to be reviewed within the first 4-year cycle
- FSMC managed SFAs will remain on a 3-year cycle
- Conduct targeted Performance Standard (PS) 1 and PS 2 reviews of new SFAs within 6 months of first claiming month and conduct a full Administrative Review within the first two years of program operation.
- Provide Administrative Review training annually.



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

12. Proposed reporting requirements (include type of data and due date(s) to FNS):

The State Agency will meet all annual Administrative Review reporting requirements as currently outlined through USDA regulations, USDA policy memos, and other requests.

13. Link to or a copy of the public notice informing the public about the proposed waiver [Section 12(l)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA]:

<https://www.in.gov/doe/nutrition/>

14. Signature and title of requesting official:

Julie Sutton

Title: Director, IN Department of Education, School & Community Nutrition

Requesting official's email address for transmission of response: jsutton@doe.in.gov

TO BE COMPLETED BY FNS REGIONAL OFFICE:

FNS Regional Offices are requested to ensure the questions have been adequately addressed by the State agency and formulate an opinion and justification for a response to the waiver request based on their knowledge, experience and work with the State.

Date request was received at Regional Office:

- Check this box to confirm that the State agency has provided public notice in accordance with Section 12(l)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA

• Regional Office Analysis and Recommendations: