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POLICY UPDATE



12.12.2018 Child Nutrition Programs: Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements

In a [Federal Register notice](#) published on December 12, 2018, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) announced a [final rule](#) on flexibilities for milk, whole grain and sodium requirements in Child Nutrition Programs (CNP). The Final Rule broadens the milk options in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the School Breakfast Program (SBP), the Special Milk Program (SMP) and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). It also requires that half of the weekly grains served in NSLP and SBP menus be whole grain-rich, and retains Sodium Target 1 through the end of School Year (SY) 2023-24, continuing to Target 2 in SY 2024-25 and eliminating the Final Target.

12.20.2018 Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request-Generic Clearance To Conduct Formative Research or Development of Nutrition Education and Promotion Materials and Related Tools and Grants for FNS Population Groups

In a [Federal Register notice](#) published on December 20, 2018, FNS provided [notice](#) that it is seeking comment on a proposed extension of an approved information collection to conduct formative research or development of nutrition education and promotion materials and related tools and grants for FNS population groups. The collection will support the development of science-based nutrition education for targeted audiences and assist FNS in identifying effective design and implementation approaches for the development and assessment of grants. FNS is seeking input on whether the information collection is necessary, the accuracy of their burden estimates, ways to improve the information that is collected and ways to minimize the burden of the collection on respondents. Comments must be received on or before February 19, 2019.

02.01.2019 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents

In a [Federal Register notice](#) published on February 1, 2019, FNS announced a [proposed rule](#) on requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The proposed rule would encourage broader application of the program's ABAWD work requirements, and limit State agencies' access to waivers of these requirements for areas with high unemployment or scarce job opportunities. Comments must be received on or before April 2, 2019.

03.01.2019 Hiring Flexibility Under Professional Standards

In a [Federal Register notice](#) published on March 1, 2019, FNS announced a [final rule](#) adding four flexibilities to the hiring standards for new school nutrition program directors in small Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and new State directors of school nutrition programs under the Professional Standards regulations for NSLP and SBP.

Questions or comments?

Send them to SNA's Government Affairs Associate, Matt Miller, at mmiller@schoolnutrition.org

03.07.2019 Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request-Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Integrity Study

In a [Federal Register notice](#) published on March 7, 2019, FNS provided [notice](#) that it is seeking public comment on a proposed information collection activity to study how the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is administered and monitored by State agencies and SFSP sponsors and sites, and to identify common SFSP integrity challenges. FNS is seeking input on whether the information collection is necessary, the accuracy of their burden estimates, ways to improve the information that is collected and ways to minimize the burden of the collection on respondents. Comments must be received on or before May 6, 2019.

03.07.2019 Hiring Flexibility Under Professional Standards; Correction

In a [Federal Register notice](#) published on March 7, 2019, FNS provided a [correction](#) to the Final Rule published on March 1, 2019, "Hiring Flexibility Under Professional Standards." A correction is made to a table providing a summary of professional standards for school nutrition program directors by LEA size.

Questions or comments?

Send them to SNA's Government Affairs Associate, Matt Miller, at mmiller@schoolnutrition.org