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POLICY UPDATE



2.03.2016 Compliance with and Enforcement of Buy American Provision

This [memorandum](#) replaces SP14-2012, Procurement Questions Relevant to the Buy American Provision, dated February 13, 2012. It also serves to reinforce the importance of the Buy American provision to the economy and its positive effects on small and local businesses.

2.05.2016 FY2016 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grants for SFAs

The purpose of [this memorandum](#) and its attachments addresses the distribution of funding allocations in the amount of \$30 million provided by the Fiscal Year 2016 Agriculture Appropriations Act to State agencies that will competitively award equipment assistance grants to eligible School Food Authorities participating in the National School Lunch Program.

[FY2016 NSLP Equipment Assistance Funds - State Allocations \(22.19 KB\)](#)

[FNS Standard Terms and Conditions \(137.11 KB\)](#)

[Grant/Cooperative Agreement \(74.31 KB\)](#)

[Instructions for Completing the FNS 529 and Terms and Conditions \(12.76 KB\)](#)

[RO Checklist for Reviewing State Agency NSLP Equipment Grant Proposals \(42.2 KB\)](#)

2.10.2016 Federal Register: Comment Request for Federal Programs Reporting System

USDA's FNS is consolidating certain domestic nutrition assistance program reporting requirements, under the Food Programs Reporting System (FPRS), an electronic reporting system. The [FPRS](#) will be used by State agencies and Tribal Organizations. Data collected will be used for a variety of purposes, mainly program evaluation, planning, audits, funding, research, regulatory compliance and general statistics. Comments are invited on ways to reduce burden and increase accuracy of information collected. Comments must be submitted by March 11, 2016 to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) or emailed to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov.

2.10.2016. CEP Annual Notification and Requirements

This [memorandum](#) details guidance on the annual Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) notification and publication requirements and provides information on the USDA-developed reporting template. To promote awareness of CEP eligibility and assist with outreach and implementation efforts, State agencies are required to annually notify local educational agencies (LEAs) of district-wide eligibility for CEP. Similarly, LEAs must annually submit school-level eligibility data to the State

agency. By May 1 of each year, State agencies publish lists of eligible and near-eligible LEAs and schools on their State agency websites and submit these lists to the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) for publication on FNS' [CEP website](#). The remainder of this memorandum provides detailed information to assist State agencies with fulfilling the CEP notification and publication requirements.

02.11.2016 Federal Register Notice: Child Nutrition Program Operations Study

The objective of the Child Nutrition Program Operations Study II (CN-OPS II) is to collect timely data on policy, administrative, and operational issues for the Child Nutrition Programs. This [study](#) will provide FNS with the data needed for the evaluation of various policy and operational issues related to CNP operations. This study

will assist FNS in obtaining general descriptive data on the Child Nutrition program characteristics needed to respond to questions about the nutrition programs in schools; obtaining data related to program administration for designing and revising program regulations, managing resources, and reporting requirements; and in obtaining data related to program operations to help FNS develop and provide training and technical assistance for the School Food Authorities (SFAs) and State Agencies responsible for administering the Child Nutrition programs.

02.22.2016 FY2016 Reallocation of SAE Funds in CN Programs

This [memorandum](#) and its attachments provide the information needed to conduct the FY 2016 reallocation of State Agency Expense funds. Reallocation is a formal process by which State agencies can request additional SAE funds above their authorized funding level or return SAE funds they do not need.

03.02.2016 Local Educational Agency Second Review of Applications

This [memorandum](#) requires local educational agencies that show high levels of administrative error associated with certification, verification and other administrative processes to conduct an independent review of the initial eligibility determinations for free and reduced price school meal applications. Accuracy is expected before notifying families of eligibility. The requirements related to the second review of applications process became effective in the School Year 2014-2015. This memorandum provides important guidance concerning the State agency's report on the results of the second review of applications, which is required by law.

03.09.2016 FDA Requirements for Vending Machines

This [memorandum](#) is intended to inform Child Nutrition Program (CNP) operators about FDA's vending machine regulation. The final rule, Food Labeling, was published on December 1, 2014 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Items in vending machines will be required to have calorie labels so consumers have clear and regular nutrition information, allowing them to make informed and healthy choices when purchasing. Vending machine operators must follow this regulation by December 1, 2016.

Questions about SNA's Policy Update can be sent to SNA's Government Relations Associate, Nadia Egziabher, at negziabher@schoolnutrition.org