



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section**  
1914 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1914  
Tel 919-707-5800 • Fax 919-870-4818

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

August 10, 2011

**SFSP 11-18**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Sponsors Participating in the Summer Food Service Program

**FROM:** Cynthia Ervin, MBA  
SFSP Coordinator, Special Nutrition Programs

**SUBJECT: Waiver of Congregate Feeding Requirement for Mobile Feeding Sites Experiencing Extreme Heat**

This memorandum establishes a waiver of the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option congregate feeding requirement for approved outdoor sites without temperature controlled alternative sites on days when the area is experiencing severe temperatures. This waiver will remain in effect through September 30, 2011.

The congregate feeding requirement (7 CFR §225.6(e)(15)) is waived only on days when the National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a Heat Advisory, an Excessive Heat Warning, or an Excessive Heat Watch for the area in which the outdoor site is located. Outdoor sites must comply with the congregate meal requirements on all other approved days of operation. This waiver is intended to allow summer operators to maintain service to children who would otherwise lose access to meals in circumstances when excessive heat makes operation of congregate feeding impracticable. Please note sponsors must notify States before utilizing this option.

Under this waiver, sponsors must continue to provide all required components of a reimbursable meal. Because meals will be consumed off site and possibly at a later time, sponsors should carefully consider all food safety issues and risks. In addition, sponsors must ensure that as part of any future application and as required by 7 CFR §225.6(c)(2)(D), arrangements made for food service during periods of inclement weather must be revised to address excessive heat conditions.

Restrictions on the number and type of meals that may be served each day as established by 7 CFR §225.16(b) continue to apply. Only one meal may be provided to each child present at the meal site. Meals may not be provided to adults or other children to take to children not present at



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the site. All meal counting, claiming, and State and sponsor monitoring and oversight requirements continue to apply.

Sponsors should direct any questions concerning this guidance to Cynthia Ervin at 919-707-5774.

cc: SNP Staff (via email)



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