

## CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM STATE WAIVER REQUEST

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

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development  
Child Nutrition Programs  
Gavin Northey, Program Manager  
[gavin.northey@alaska.gov](mailto:gavin.northey@alaska.gov)  
(907) 465-8708

### **2. Region:** Western Region

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

Alaska DEED/CNP requests to waive the implementation date from May 1, 2023 to January 1, 2024 for the Final Rule–Streamlining Program Requirements and Improving Integrity in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

### **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(I)(2)(A)(iii) and 12(I)(2)(A)(iv) of the NSLA]:**

The waiver is requested to allow Alaska DEED/CNP time to strengthen policies and procedures when ensuring SFSP sponsors meet requirements regarding financial viability, financial management, administrative capability, and program accountability. The extension will allow Alaska DEED/CNP to update the application system; develop policies, procedures, and communications that are aligned more closely to existing CACFP procedures; and provide training to staff and program sponsors about VCA and the management plan. The waiver will allow Alaska DEED/CNP to prioritize implementation of other regulatory changes codified through the Final Rule on Streamlining Program Requirements and on non-congregate meal service in rural areas which must be met this summer.

### **5. Specific Program requirements to be waived (include statutory and regulatory citations). [Section 12(I)(2)(A)(i) of the NSLA]:**

Compliance date May 1, 2023 regarding 7 CFR §225.14(c)(1), as published in the Streamlining Program Requirements and Improving Integrity in the SFSP Final Rule at 87 F.R 57304, to be extended to January 1, 2024.

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

Program integrity measures as outlined in regulations will continue to be met while utilizing this waiver. Alaska DEED/CNP anticipates changes to the State’s online database and application process. Alaska DEED/CNP will provide detailed information and instructions to program sponsors and require additional information in preparation for implementation next year.

**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]:**

No barriers exist at the State-level.

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

No anticipated challenges.

**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]:**

No anticipated increased federal costs.

**10. Anticipated waiver implementation date and time period:**

May 1, 2023 - January 1, 2024

**11. Proposed monitoring and review procedures:**

Monitoring of sponsors' operations under the requested waiver will follow administrative review regulations consistent with 7 CFR 225 review requirements.

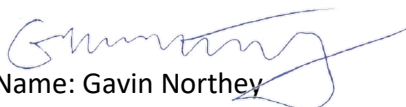
**12. Proposed reporting requirements (include type of data and due date(s) to FNS):**

DEED will provide information on requirements delayed due to this waiver, as requested by USDA.

**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]:**

[Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, Child Nutrition Programs \(https://education.alaska.gov/cnp\)](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp) *pending*

**14. Signature and title of requesting official:**



Name: Gavin Northey

Title: Child Nutrition Programs Manager

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

**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: 4/7/2023**

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

- **Regional Office Analysis and Recommendations:**