

## CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM STATE WAIVER REQUEST TEMPLATE

Child Nutrition Programs are expected to be administered according to all statutory and regulatory requirements; waivers to the requirements are exceptions. However, Section 12(l) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1760(l), provides authority for USDA to waive requirements for State agencies or eligible service providers under certain circumstances. When requesting the waiver of statutory or regulatory requirements for the Child Nutrition Programs (CNP), including the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), the Special Milk Program (SMP), and the School Breakfast Program (SBP), State agencies and eligible service providers should use this template. State agencies and eligible service providers should consult with their FNS Regional Offices when developing waiver requests to ensure a well-reasoned, thorough request is submitted. State agencies and eligible service providers are encouraged to submit complete waiver requests at least 60 calendar days prior to the anticipated implementation date. Requests submitted less than 60 calendar days prior to the anticipated implementation should be accompanied by an explanation of extenuating circumstances.

For more information on requests for waiving Program requirements, refer to SP 15-2018, CACFP 12-2018, SFSP 05-2018, *Child Nutrition Program Waiver Request Guidance and Protocol- Revised*, May 24, 2018.

1. **State agency submitting waiver request and responsible State agency staff contact information:** Ohio Department of Education  
Office of Nutrition  
Brigette Hires, Administrator  
25 S. Front St.  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
614-425-9560  
[Brigette.Hires@education.ohio.gov](mailto:Brigette.Hires@education.ohio.gov)
2. **Region:** Midwest
3. **Eligible service providers participating in waiver and affirmation that they are in good standing:** Bridgeport Exempted Village School District

**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]: 7 CFR 245.9(f)(4)(i)**

The Bridgeport School District would look to be able to serve free breakfast and lunch to all students. The challenge that this would solve for our district would be being able to give each kid free breakfast and lunch. This would improve morale in the community and help our students' families financially.

**5. Specific Program requirements to be waived (include statutory and regulatory citations). [Section 12(l)(2)(A)(i) of the NSLA]: 7 CFR 245.9(f)(4)(i)**

Requesting to waive the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. The district inquired about CEP in April 2024 but did not commit due to having to for four years. The district watched a webinar put on by the Department of Nutrition in August 2024 and realized that we have the ability to opt out of the program at anytime. Therefore, we are looking to apply for the 2024-2025 school year.

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

If not approved, the district would have to continue operating under the NSLP program.

Attachment A

**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]:**

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

The challenges the district would face if not approved would be having to continue normal operations and having students pay for their lunches.

**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 cost increases. If there are, the district confirms that these items will be expended from non-Federal funds.

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

SY2024-2025 and as soon as possible. Our first day of school is August 21, 2024.

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

Meal counts and submit monthly claims in a timely manner.

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

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

<https://www.bridgeportschools.net/Lunchinfo.aspx>

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

*Eric M. Manning* Treasurer / CFO

**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(I)(1)(A)(ii) of the NSLA

**Regional Office Analysis and Recommendations:**