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## CACFP Family Day Care Home Request to Complete Monitoring as Desk Audits

### **Waiver Request**

Wyoming Department of Education Child and Adult Care Food Program

#### State agency staff contact information:

Tamra Jackson, State Director of Nutrition Child and Adult Care Food Program Wyoming Department of Education 122 W. 25th St., Suite E200 Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0206 307-777-6263 tamra.jackson@wyo.gov

#### Region:

**USDA Mountain Plains Region** 

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

Wyoming Department of Education Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Family Day Care Home Sponsor, in good standing, has the ability to complete monitoring as desk audits during a COVID-19 outbreak.

Institutions that would operate under this waiver are operating in communities where schools and/or childcare centers are closed in connection with a COVID-19 outbreak. This waiver request is based on USDA Policy Memo CACFP 12-2014, SP 46-2014, SFSP 18-2014 where it states on page five, "Other exceptional emergency situations or man-made disasters, such as human pandemic or chemical plant explosions, may impact the ability of schools, institutions, and sponsors to continue normal program operations. In this circumstance, FNS may approve flexibilities to accommodate the needs of severely impacted areas."

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(1)(2)(A)(iii) and 12(1)(2)(A)(iv) of the NSLA]:

#### Challenge:

Completing the monitoring visits onsite poses a risk to increased exposure for populations most at risk of developing and spreading of COVD-19. The Wyoming Department of Education would continue to monitor the situation.

"Social-distancing" is integral to the control of the COVID-19. CACFP regulations require consumption of meals at meal sites, thus increasing the potential of exposure among program participants.

#### Goal:

Provide monitoring as desk audits to participating family day care homes in a manner that minimizes potential exposure to COVI D-19.

#### **Expected Outcomes:**

The Family Day Care Home Sponsor, in good standing, to complete required monitoring visits as desk audits, while limiting interaction and proximity to other participants therefore decreasing the risk of COVID-19 exposure.

## Specific Program requirements to be waived (include statutory and regulatory citations). [Section 12(1)(2)(A)(i) of the NSLA]:

The Wyoming Department of Education requests a waiver of regulation 7 CFR 226.16(d)(4)(iii)(A) that require onsite monitoring of home providers.

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

If approved, the Wyoming Department of Education will provide technical assistance to the Family Day Care Horne Sponsor on process and procedures for planning and preparing a desk audit in place of an onsite monitoring visit. There are no impacts on technology or State systems.

## Description of any steps the State has taken to address regulatory barriers at the State level. [Section 12(1)(2)(A) (ii) of the NSLA]:

There are currently no State level regulatory barriers related to this specific issue.

#### Anticipated challenges State or eligible service providers may face with the waiver implementation:

Our agency does not anticipate that the establishment of this statewide waiver will pose any challenges at the state or sponsor level as many family day care home providers have sent in recent claim information or can send in any requested documentation to the family day care home sponsor. Alternatively, we anticipate this waiver will reduce challenges faced by the Family Day Care Home Sponsor in terms of entering homes where COVID-19 could be present due to participants or providers having COVID-19 with or without symptoms. Children can still benefit from meal service and the family day care home sponsor would be able to do some level or monitoring.

# 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(I)(I)(A) (iii) of the NSLA]:

The establishment of this statewide waiver will not increase the overall cost of the Program to the Federal Government since these programs would be operating in situations where they normally would operate USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program At-Risk program. There are no additional staff costs to implement this waiver.

#### Anticipated waiver implementation date and time period:

The anticipated waiver implementation start date is March 15, 2020 and is to remain in effect through June 30, 2021.

#### Proposed monitoring and review procedures:

State agency staff who will approve individual institution written requests to implement the waiver will monitor implementation of this waiver.

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

No later than July 15, 2021, Wyoming CACFP will report to FNS the number of sponsors that used this waiver including the number of unanticipated operating days and meals claimed.

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

https://edu.wyoming.gov/beyond-the-classroom/nutrition/summer-food/

#### Notice to be released:

The Wyoming Department of Education is seeking this waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services. The purpose of this waiver is to support sponsoring organizations that are monitoring Child and Adult Care Food Program Home Providers and upholding the integrity of the program while ensuring the safety of the field representatives during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Tamra Jackson, State Direct of Nutrition Child and Adult Care Food Program Wyoming Department of Education 122 W. 25th St., Suite E200 Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0206

(307) 777-6263 tamra.jackson@wyo.gov

#### TO BE COMPLETED BY FNS REGIONAL OFFICE:

Signature and title of requesting official:

Tamra Jackson, State Direct of Nutrition Child and Adult Care Food Program Wyoming Department of Education
122 W. 25th St., Suite E200
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0206
(307) 777-6263
tamra.jackson@wyo.gov

TO BE COMPLETED BY FNS REGIONAL OFFICE:

Date Received:

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

Regional Office Analysis and Recommendations:

Recommend Approval