



## Department of Health

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**TO:** CACFP Sponsoring Organizations

**FROM:** Danielle Quigley, MS, RD, CDN  
Director, Bureau of Child and Adult Care Food Programs

**DATE:** January 8, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Monitoring Flexibilities for CACFP Sponsoring Organizations

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) has updated guidance related to program monitoring requirements in Federal Fiscal Year 2021 (October 2020 - September 2021). This memo explains extended flexibilities that the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service is allowing to support appropriate safety measures during the COVID-19 outbreak.

### **I. Monitoring Flexibility (For Day Care Home Sponsors or Multi-Center Sponsors)**

- a. Federal regulations mandate specific requirements for conducting facility reviews each year.
- b. With this waiver, CACFP monitoring requirements have been decreased and are as follows:
  - Only two monitoring reviews are required for each center/provider during this review year (instead of three).
  - Unannounced visits and meal observations are not required.
  - Monitoring visits can be more than six months apart.
  - New facilities must still be reviewed; however desk audits may be done in place of an onsite review.
- c. This waiver is in effect until September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- d. To ensure Program integrity, Sponsoring Organizations are encouraged to use all methods available to conduct offsite reviews including use of video conferencing, photos, staff interviews, phone calls and desk audits.

CACFP is available to provide assistance to all programs and appreciates the tremendous effort of Sponsoring Organizations working to meet the nutritional needs of participants during this challenging time.

For CACFP questions, contact CACFP at 1-800-942-3858 or [cacfp@health.ny.gov](mailto:cacfp@health.ny.gov).