

DECEMBER 04, 1998

SUBJECT: Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Policy Memorandum #12-99:
Time Restrictions for Meal Service at Migrant Sites

TO: Regional Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All Regions

This memorandum provides State agencies the authority to grant waivers of the time restrictions for meal service at migrant sites. It is a continuation, except for a technical change in reporting procedures, of SFSP Policy Memorandum #12-98, issued on July 8, 1998. This memorandum is effective upon issuance, and will remain in effect until superseded by regulation or future memorandum.

To be eligible for SFSP reimbursement, sponsors must comply with the time restrictions for meal service that are specified in section 225.16(c) of the regulations, and serve meals and supplements during approved meal service periods. We are concerned, however, that these requirements may pose an additional barrier for sponsors serving children of migrant farm workers, particularly in communities where children accompany their parents to the fields, and where youths are also involved in agricultural work.

Therefore, this memorandum permits State agencies to waive any of the time restrictions found in sections 225.16(c)(1) and 225.16(c)(2) for sponsors of sites that primarily serve migrant children. It is our hope that adding flexibility in scheduling meal services will enable those sponsors to reach more eligible children and teenagers who may not otherwise have access to SFSP. Please note that this action does not change State agency and sponsor responsibilities to ensure that the period of meal service and any changes to the meal service are approved, and that appropriate arrangements are made for monitoring the program.

As with other waiver activities, States will be required to provide information to you about the waivers they grant for meal time restrictions at migrant sites. By October 15, 1999, each regional office should report to us on the numbers of sponsors and sites approved with this waiver.

Please share this information with your State agencies. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Rothstein or Ron Ulibarri.

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STANLEY C. GARNETT
Director
Child Nutrition Division