



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

August 30, 2019

Arlene Ramos-Szatmary
Coordinator, School Nutrition Programs
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
Division of Food and Nutrition
PO Box 334
Trenton, NJ 08625

Re: New Jersey Department of Agriculture 3-year Administrative Review Cycle
Waiver Request

Dear Ms. Ramos-Szatmary:

This letter is in response to the July 11, 2019, waiver request from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture to allow the implementation of a 4-year administrative review cycle. Pursuant to section 12(l) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA), (42 USC 1760(l)), FNS approves New Jersey Department of Agriculture's waiver request for a single administrative review cycle extension through June 30, 2022.

This waiver is applicable to section 22(b)(1)(C)(i) of the NSLA, 42 USC 1769c(b)(1)(C)(i), and regulations at 7 CFR 210.18 which require State agencies to conduct administrative reviews of all school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program at least once during a 3-year review cycle, provided that each SFA is reviewed at least once every 4 years.

State agencies are still required to continue providing excellent customer service and any necessary technical assistance and training, complete all administrative reviews within the specified timeframe in this letter, and work towards enhancing Program operations.

The waiver authority at section 12(l) of the NSLA requires that FNS review the performance of any State that is granted a waiver. Therefore, FNS is requiring that for the duration of this waiver, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture provide the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office a written report within 30 days of the end of the school year or by July 30. The report must provide information quantifying the impact of the waiver, as described below, in order to help inform national policy.

The report must include:

- A description of how the waiver impacted meal service operations, children's access to nutritious meals, and participation in the NSLP and/or SBP;

- A description of how the waiver impacted the quantity of paperwork necessary to administer the program;
- The total number of SFAs reviewed for an administrative review; and
- Findings and technical assistance provided.

Please note that any requests for renewal of this waiver are contingent on New Jersey Department of Agriculture's ability to provide complete data and an analysis of the waiver's impact. Failure to provide the requested data may result in the automatic denial of a future waiver request.

Should New Jersey Department of Agriculture determine this waiver is no longer necessary prior to June 30, 2022, please notify the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office.

Sincerely,

Original Signed

Sarah Smith-Holmes
Division Director
Program Monitoring and Operational Support