



State of New Jersey

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To: School Business Administrators, Charter School Leads; Non Public School Administrators; Food Service Directors of Schools Participating in the School Nutrition Programs

From: Arleen Ramos-Szatmary, Coordinator *Arleen Ramos-Szatmary*
School Nutrition Programs

Date: August 9, 2017

Subject: Request for Exemption Allowing Service of 1% Flavored Milk in School Year 2017 - 2018

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently issued memo SP32-2017 *School Meal Flexibilities for School Year 2017-18*, which states that under Section 747(c) of the Appropriations Act, through School Year 2017-18, State agencies have the discretion to grant SFAs exemptions allowing service of low-fat (1% milk fat) *flavored* milk through the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and as a competitive food available for sale on campus during the school day. New Jersey will provide this option to interested SFAs. In order to qualify for the exemption, schools must demonstrate hardship by documenting a reduction in student milk consumption or an increase in school milk waste.

The approval process will begin August 8, 2017, and will be effective for School Year 2017-2018. The deadline for submission is September 8, 2017. Milk offerings will be monitored as part of the administrative review. A copy of the Exemption Form, State Agency notification of approval, and any other documentation to support the request should also be maintained on file.

The New Jersey Exemption Request for the Service of 1% Flavored Milk is available in SNEARS under the tab "Resources" and then in the subcategory, "Equipment Requests/Waivers." The completed form **must** be sent by email to: snpspecialprojects@ag.state.nj.us by September 8, 2017.

Direct any questions to the School Nutrition Programs unit at 609-984-0692.