



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Milk Marketing Board
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

717/787-4194
FAX: 717/705-2712

WEB SITE: <http://www.mmb.pa.gov>

E-mail: RA-PMMB@pa.gov

No. 1598

BULLETIN

October 14, 2021

COVID-19 SCHOOL MEAL PATTERN WAIVERS

Pursuant to various Federal Acts the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has granted a nationwide waiver to allow specific school meal pattern flexibility for school year 2021-2022. Pennsylvania has elected to use the waiver.

The waiver allows for flexibility regarding the school breakfast and school lunch fluid milk requirements. Without a waiver schools must offer at least two different options of fluid milk. All fluid milk must be fat-free or low-fat. Fat-free fluid milk may be flavored or unflavored, and low-fat milk must be unflavored.

Schools may apply for a waiver from the fluid milk requirements. The justification for the waiver must align with the intent of the waiver, as determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). PDE has approved waivers based on, among other justifications, COVID safety and supply chain challenges. Waiver applications based on student preference, increasing meal participation, or already negotiated contracts for low-fat flavored milk were not approved.

The purpose of this Bulletin is to inform the dairy industry that the waivers are available and that waivers are being approved if the justification meets the intent of the waiver program. A copy of the waiver issued by FNS is attached. Schools may direct questions they have about the waiver to their contacts at PDE.

PENNSYLVANIA MILK MARKETING BOARD

Carol A. Hardbarger

Carol A. Hardbarger, PhD, Secretary

IF YOU REQUIRE THIS INFORMATION IN AN ALTERNATE FORMAT, CALL
(717) 787-4194 OR 800-654-5984 (PA RELAY SERVICE FOR TDD USERS).