

May 15, 2020

TO:

Food and Nutrition Service

1320 Braddock Place Alexandria, VA 22314

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**SUBJECT:** WIC Policy Memorandum #2020-2: Extensions for USDA FNS-Approved COVID-19 Waivers through June 30, 2020

Regional Directors Special Nutrition Programs All Regions

> WIC State Agency Directors All State Agencies

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127, the Act) provides the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) statutory and regulatory waiver authorities necessary in a public health emergency such as COVID-19 to encourage social distancing and reduce visits to WIC clinics. To date, the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has approved requests from all WIC State agencies to waive select statutory and regulatory requirements through May 31, 2020. USDA FNS is extending waiver approvals through June 30, 2020 for all WIC State agencies to continue operations under their approved waivers. State and local agency reporting requirements still apply.

USDA will continue to monitor the public health emergency and will consider subsequent extensions of waiver approvals if the State agency: (1) cannot meet program regulatory requirements due to COVID-19, and (2) the waiver is necessary to provide assistance to participants. USDA FNS will follow-up in a subsequent communication about the process and information needed to submit a request for an extension of a waiver beyond June 30, 2020.

If a State agency no longer requires a waiver previously granted by USDA FNS or has questions related to this extension, the State agency should contact the appropriate FNS Regional Office.

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