# SNP Memo #2021-2022-04

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**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA   
Department of Education**

DATE: August 31, 2021

TO: Directors, Supervisors, and Contact Persons Addressed

FROM: Sandra C. Curwood, PhD, RDN, ***Sandy***

**SUBJECT:** **Previously Issued Questions and Answers Relating to Operation of the Child Nutrition Programs: Updated for School Year 2021-2022**

This memorandum provides questions and answers (Q&As) issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (USDA-FNS) for state agencies and program operators as they operate the child nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the School Breakfast Program (SBP), the NSLP Seamless Summer Option (SSO), and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), during school year (SY) 2021-2022. These Q&As were previously issued in calendar year 2020 and have been updated for application to SY 2021-2022.

Please note that questions 10–12 pertain to the potable water requirement for the SBP and the NSLP. These requirements also apply to the SSO. Schools are expected to make bottled water, or water provided in another safe manner, available to students if local health departments do not allow water fountains or communal water pitchers and cups. The USDA-FNS recommends that schools consider, besides making bottled water available, allowing school food service staff to dispense water from pitchers to cups to requesting students, if the students were aware of the availability. This was approved by local health authorities and could be seen as a safe alternative to self-dispensing or water fountains. A water dispenser is also a possibility if cost-effective. Bottled water must not be marketed as a substitute for milk.

USDA Memo SP 16-2021, CACFP 14-2021, *Previously Issued Questions and Answers Relating to Operation of the Child Nutrition Programs: Updated for School Year 2021-2022*, is attached to the email containing this memo.

If you have questions, please contact your assigned SNP regional specialist for schools or CNP regional specialist for community sponsors.

SCC/CEJ/cc