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MEMORANDUM (2009-2010)

Date: September 1, 2009
To: School Food Authorities and Community Organizations
Subj: H1N1 Information

Last spring New Mexico students were left without access to their regular school meals when many schools were forced to close temporarily during the H1N1 flu outbreak. The Student Nutrition Bureau is committed to protecting students from illness while ensuring nutritious meal service continues.

School Food Authorities (SFAs) and Community Organization (COs) will be able to offer meals in non-congregate settings through a modified National School Lunch Program's Seamless Summer Option. Since no duplication of coverage is allowed, SFA and COs are encouraged to work together to ensure meals are provided to students in the event of an H1N1-related school closure. This special program allowance may be invoked only upon the declaration of a public health emergency.

The forms and guidance you need to ensure your school can continue providing meals in the event of an H1N1-related closure are located on the New Mexico Student Nutrition Bureau website at <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/nutrition/H1N1.html>. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), waiver request and addendums must be received and approved by NMPED prior to meal service. We encourage you to complete the applicable forms and return to SNB as soon as possible.

SNB stands ready to assist you in continuing your service to the school children of New Mexico. Thank you for your attention in this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Leonard Mirabal

Leonard Mirabal, Director
Student Nutrition Bureau

File: H1N1 Information