DATE:          October 8, 2010

MEMO CODE:    SP 03-2011

SUBJECT:      State Agency Reports on School Food Safety Inspections, SY 2009

TO:           Regional Directors
              Special Nutrition Programs
              All Regions

              State Directors
              Child Nutrition Programs
              All States

This is to remind you that the State Agency (SA) report on school food safety inspections for the School Year (SY) 2009-2010 is due to the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) by November 15, 2010. Section 9(h) of the National School Lunch Act requires each SA to monitor and report to the Secretary of Agriculture the number of food safety inspections obtained by institutions that participate in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program. The reporting requirement, which initially applied only to SY 2005-2006 through SY 2008-2009, was extended through FY 2010 by the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-800).

As in the past, the inspections report should state the total number of schools that obtained zero inspection, one inspection, two inspections, and three or more inspections. You must collect information on the total number of food safety inspections conducted in food preparation and/or service areas in schools under your jurisdiction. It would be beneficial for us if you would use the attached prototype form to submit the total numbers as indicated. Please send the report to: NSLPFoodSafetyInspections@fns.usda.gov.

If you are reporting zero or one inspection, briefly explain in the body of the response e-mail the reasons for not meeting the inspections requirement. For accuracy, do not report the same schools under more than one category. For example, if a school obtained two inspections, report it only under “Schools with two inspections.”

Please submit the complete report on inspections on time so that FNS has accurate information on the level of compliance with this statutory requirement. As a reminder, program reviews also need to examine compliance with this statutory requirement.
For assistance with this reporting requirement, please contact your Regional Office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Cynthia Long
Director
Child Nutrition Division

Attachment