



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

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DATE: January 10, 2017

MEMO CODE: SP 16-2017

SUBJECT: State Agencies Selected for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017
National School Lunch Program Management Evaluations (ME)

TO: Regional Directors
Special Nutrition Programs
All Regions

State Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All States

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is legislatively mandated to monitor program administration and the operation of its Food Assistance Programs. Each Fiscal Year, FNS utilizes MEs to evaluate State agency operations. An ME is an on-site review supported by continual assessment of State program operations. Data gathered through this process provides a basis for assessing the administration of FNS programs and in planning future management objectives. The results are delivered in a report that indicates review findings, observations, and noteworthy initiatives.

FNS would like to announce that the following 20 State agencies (alphabetical order) will receive a National School Lunch Program (NSLP) ME in FY 2017:

1. Colorado	8. Louisiana	15. South Carolina
2. Florida	9. Missouri	16. Utah
3. Georgia	10. Montana	17. Vermont
4. Guam	11. Oklahoma-DHS	18. Virgin Islands
5. Hawaii	12. Oklahoma-DOE	19. Washington
6. Iowa	13. Puerto Rico	20. Wyoming
7. Kentucky	14. Rhode Island	

State agencies are assessed based on relative-risk for program administration issues, rather than by a calendar cycle. However, a State agency will automatically be selected for an NSLP ME if the State agency:

- 1) Has not been reviewed for a period of five years or longer, or
- 2) Receives the most State Administrative Expense (SAE) funds and has not been reviewed in the last four years.

In addition to the automatic selection categories listed above, several additional factors evaluated include but are not limited to, previous NSLP ME findings, the management of State agency funds, procurement practices, State agency program knowledge and oversight, and the accuracy and timeliness of reporting and data collection requests.

Regional Directors
State Directors
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In an effort to continually improve program integrity and focus resources where they are most needed, FNS is beginning a new process this year in addition to comprehensive MEs. Rather than selecting State agencies for MEs for multiple consecutive years, FNS will conduct targeted ME Technical Assistance (META) Site Visits. This approach will provide additional support to selected State agencies by delivering programmatic assistance where it is needed.

As part of this new process, any State agency that received an ME in FY 2016 was assessed using the NSLP ME Risk Assessment Tool but not considered for a comprehensive ME for FY 2017. However, in order to provide targeted technical assistance, one State from each Region will be selected by their respective Regional Office to receive a targeted META Site Visit during FY 2017. State agencies that received an ME in FY 2016 will again be evaluated for selection of a comprehensive ME in FY 2018.

State agencies with questions should contact the appropriate FNS Regional Office.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sarah Smith-Holmes".

Sarah Smith-Holmes
Division Director
Program Monitoring and Operational Support