



Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

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DATE: May 30, 2017

MEMO CODE: SP 33-2017

SUBJECT: State Agency Food Safety Inspections Report for SY 2016-2017

TO: Regional Directors
Special Nutrition Programs
All Regions

State Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All States

This memorandum provides guidance regarding the reinstatement of the food safety inspections reporting requirement under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for fiscal year (FY) 2017. Division A, Title IV of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, (P.L. 115-31) amends section 9(h) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) to reinstate the State agency's food safety inspections reporting requirement for fiscal year (FY) 2017. Previously, the law required the State agency inspections report for each of FY 2011 through FY 2015. No report was required for FY 2016. State agencies must now report to the Food and Nutrition Service the number of annual food safety inspections obtained by schools under their jurisdiction for school year 2016-2017. Please submit the report by November 15, 2017, to: NSLPFoodSafetyInspections@fns.usda.gov.

As required in section 9(h) of the NSLA, schools must obtain a food safety inspection at least twice a year conducted by a State or local agency responsible for such inspections. State agencies must collect information on the total number of inspections conducted in food preparation and/or service areas in schools under the jurisdiction of the State agency. The inspection report should state the total number of schools that obtained zero inspections, one inspection, two inspections, and three or more inspections. State agencies are encouraged to use the prototype form available in the Food Safety Folder in the Resources and Guidance document library of the CN (Child Nutrition Programs) Policy and Memoranda Community in the PartnerWeb.

As a reminder, the food safety inspection requirement applies to all food preparation-service sites and service-only sites. The scope of the food safety inspection may vary according to the type of food service operation and is determined by the agency responsible for inspections. Also, if reports include zero or one inspection, a brief explanation of the reasons for failure to meet the inspections requirement must be included in the body of the response e-mail. For accuracy, the same schools should not be reported under more than one category. For example, if a school obtained two inspections, it should be reported only under, "Schools with two inspections."

Regional Directors

State Directors

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State agencies should ensure that those school food authorities/schools which are not able to obtain the required inspections through no fault of their own follow proper food safety practices and have a HACCP-based food safety plan to protect the safety of school meals.

Technical assistance materials and other resources are available at:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/food-safety/food-safety-resources>. State agencies are also encouraged to continue to communicate with State and local public health authorities to facilitate progress in obtaining the two required inspections each year.

Thank you for your continued cooperation. Please direct questions to the appropriate FNS Regional Office.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Angela Kline". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a stylized "K".

Angela Kline

Director

Policy and Program Development Division

Child Nutrition Programs