

From: [Ahn, Susan - FNA](#)
To: [Spencer, Rachel M \(EED\)](#); [Schwartz, Adrienne L \(EED\)](#)
Cc: [EED CNP SchoolMeals \(EED sponsored\)](#); [Chew, GeNam - FNA](#); [DiTano, Melisa - FNA](#); [Russel, Alexandria - FNA](#)
Subject: APPROVED: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools
Date: Monday, July 27, 2026 10:23:25 AM
Attachments: [AK FY26 NSLP Nome Public Schools CEP Deadline Waiver Request Updated.pdf](#)
[AK Nome Public Schools CEP Election Deadline Waiver Response.pdf](#)

Good morning, Adrienne and Rachel,

Please see the attached approval letter to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (AK DEED) regarding its request to extend the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) election deadline for SY 2026-2027. No hard copy to follow.

Also, please find below a summary/top line communications message of the approval:

- On July 27, 2026, FNA granted AK DEED's request to waive the requirement for the annual CEP election deadline of June 30 for Nome Public Schools due to administrative challenges and staff turnover.
- FNA has determined that approval of this waiver request would facilitate the ability of the State and LEA to carry out the purpose of the School Meal Programs.
- As requested, the waiver will allow AK DEED to extend the CEP election date for Nome Public Schools.

We would appreciate acknowledgement of receipt of this message. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Suzie

From: Spencer, Rachel M (EED) <rachel.spencer@alaska.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 3:28 PM
To: Ahn, Susan - FNA <susan.ahn@usda.gov>
Cc: Schwartz, Adrienne L (EED) <adrienne.schwartz@alaska.gov>; EED CNP SchoolMeals (EED sponsored) <EED.CNP.SchoolMeals@alaska.gov>; Chew, GeNam - FNA <genam.chew@usda.gov>; DiTano, Melisa - FNA <melisa.ditano@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools

Thanks Suzie! Super appreciated! It's been a long Friday... :)

Rachel Spencer

Department of Education and Early Development
School Nutrition Program Coordinator
907-269-6578

From: Ahn, Susan - FNA <susan.ahn@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 2:24 PM
To: Spencer, Rachel M (EED) <rachel.spencer@alaska.gov>
Cc: Schwartz, Adrienne L (EED) <adrienne.schwartz@alaska.gov>; EED CNP SchoolMeals (EED sponsored) <EED.CNP.SchoolMeals@alaska.gov>; Chew, GeNam - FNA <genam.chew@usda.gov>; DiTano, Melisa - FNA <melisa.ditano@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools

Thanks, Rachel!

We just noticed that the text under Section 5 appears to have the leftover text from California.

5. Specific Program requirements to be waived (include statutory and regulatory citations). [Section 12(l)(2)(A)(i) of the NSLA]:

June 30 election documentation and deadline under section 11(a)(1)(F)(x)(I) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA), 42 U.S.C. 1759a, and Food and Nutrition Service regulations at Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations Section 245.9(f)(4)(i).

Request: The CDE requests the authority to grant Clovis Global the flexibility to elect the CEP for School Year 2024–25 beyond the June 30 election date.

We replaced that with your original language and sent it forward for processing:

Request: AK DEED requests the authority to grant Nome Public Schools the flexibility to elect the CEP for School Year 2026-2027 beyond the June 30 election date.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks!
Suzie

From: Spencer, Rachel M (EED) <rachel.spencer@alaska.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 3:15 PM
To: Ahn, Susan - FNA <susan.ahn@usda.gov>
Cc: Schwartz, Adrienne L (EED) <adrienne.schwartz@alaska.gov>; EED CNP SchoolMeals (EED sponsored) <EED.CNP.SchoolMeals@alaska.gov>; Chew, GeNam - FNA <genam.chew@usda.gov>; DiTano, Melisa - FNA <melisa.ditano@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools

<https://education.alaska.gov/cnp>

Posted!!

Thank you,

Rachel Spencer
Department of Education and Early Development
School Nutrition Program Coordinator
907-269-6578

From: Ahn, Susan - FNA <susan.ahn@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 12:04 PM
To: Spencer, Rachel M (EED) <rachel.spencer@alaska.gov>
Cc: Schwartz, Adrienne L (EED) <adrienne.schwartz@alaska.gov>; EED CNP SchoolMeals (EED sponsored) <EED.CNP.SchoolMeals@alaska.gov>; Chew, GeNam - FNA <genam.chew@usda.gov>; DiTano, Melisa - FNA <melisa.ditano@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools

Hi, Rachel!

Thank you for the revised copy of the waiver request. It looks good. I will wait for you to let me know when the link is live and will then send it forward for processing.

Thanks again!
Suzie

From: Spencer, Rachel M (EED) <rachel.spencer@alaska.gov>

Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 12:55 PM

To: Ahn, Susan - FNA <susan.ahn@usda.gov>

Cc: Schwartz, Adrienne L (EED) <adrienne.schwartz@alaska.gov>; EED CNP SchoolMeals (EED sponsored) <EED.CNP.SchoolMeals@alaska.gov>

Subject: RE: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools

Hi Suzie,

I included information about CEP, ISP and their election on the waiver request. I just emailed out IT department today to post it, I will confirm with you when it is completed.

Thank you for the guidance!

Rachel Spencer

Department of Education and Early Development

School Nutrition Program Coordinator

907-269-6578

From: Ahn, Susan - FNA <susan.ahn@usda.gov>

Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 9:54 AM

To: Spencer, Rachel M (EED) <rachel.spencer@alaska.gov>

Subject: RE: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi, Rachel,

There are some pieces of information that would be helpful to include in Section 4:

- Was Nome on a CEP cycle last school year (it sounds like it, but it's good to be explicit)
- Do you have access to the April 1, 2026, data and do you expect Nome to be eligible for CEP again (what was their ISP last cycle?)
- When you do you think they will be ready to elect/submit documentation?

You are welcome to include this in the waiver request yourself, or if you provide us with the information, we can include it and share the revised copy with you for your approval before submission. Please let us know how you would like to proceed or simply return to

us a revised version of the waiver.

Also, please let us know when the waiver is uploaded to DEED's website, as we cannot forward this request on until it is posted.

Let us know if you have any questions!

Thanks!

Suzie

From: Ahn, Susan - FNA
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 9:03 AM
To: AK - Spencer, Rachel <rachel.spencer@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools

Hi, Rachel,

I will be reviewing the waiver request and let you know if we have any questions.

Thanks!

Suzie

From: Spencer, Rachel M (EED) <rachel.spencer@alaska.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 8:35 AM
To: SM.FN.WR-NSLPPolicy <SM.FN.WR-NSLPPolicy@usda.gov>
Cc: Schwartz, Adrienne L (EED) <adrienne.schwartz@alaska.gov>; EED CNP SchoolMeals (EED sponsored) <EED.CNP.SchoolMeals@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools

Apologies!

Please see correct attached waiver request. :)

Rachel Spencer
Department of Education and Early Development
School Nutrition Program Coordinator
907-269-6578

From: Spencer, Rachel M (EED)
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 7:22 AM
To: 'SM.FN.WR-NSLPPolicy@usda.gov' <sm.fn.wr-nslppolicy@usda.gov>
Cc: Schwartz, Adrienne L (EED) <adrienne.schwartz@alaska.gov>; EED CNP SchoolMeals (EED sponsored) <EED.CNP.SchoolMeals@alaska.gov>
Subject: AK - SY 2026/2027 CEP Deadline Waiver Request - Nome Public Schools

Good morning,

Attached is a waiver request on behalf of Nome Public Schools regarding the June 30 CEP deadline.

As noted in the waiver, Nome Public Schools is in good standing with AK DEED and has a history of program compliance and responsiveness.

We appreciate your time and consideration in reviewing this request.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need more information!

Thank you,

Rachel Spencer
Department of Education and Early Development
School Nutrition Program Coordinator
907-269-6578

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