**Free Summer Meals are just around the corner!**

**2023 Summer Meals FAQ**

USDA’s Seamless Summer Option (SSO) is returning to its pre-pandemic service model. Several USDA waivers which allowed certain flexibilities during the pandemic have now expired. Due to the expiration of these federal waivers, summer feeding will look a bit different this year compared to the last two years. Please allow us to provide helpful details & answers to frequently asked questions.

 Why is curbside pickup not available in Conroe ISD Child Nutrition this summer ❓

Due to the expiration of a USDA pandemic waiver that allowed non-congregate meal service (meals taken & eaten offsite), curbside pickup is not available at this time in Conroe ISD.

Why do the meals have to be eaten onsite❓

Due to the expiration of the USDA waiver which allowed non-congregate meal service, regulations require meals to be consumed onsite.

Why must children be present to receive a meal❓

Due to an expired USDA pandemic waiver that previously allowed meals to be picked up without children present, children must again be present to receive a summer meal as usual.

Are these changes related to funding or controlling food waste❓

No. The changes are due to expired USDA waivers that were implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to create meal service flexibilities during the health crisis.

Did Conroe ISD Child Nutrition make these changes❓

No. USDA regulations determine meal service methods for Summer Feeding.

What are Conroe ISD and Conroe ISD Child Nutrition doing to provide meals in the community in light of these changes❓

In an effort to reach as many children in our community as possible, we are proudly serving meals at twelve campuses all across the district. For more information on sites, dates, and times, please go to our website at <https://www.conroeisd.net/department/child-nutrition/> All children 18 years old and under may visit any site for a free summer meal. There is no registration and no identification is required.

We can't wait to serve you beginning Monday, June 5th!