

Request for Exemption from the Whole Grain-rich (WGR) Requirement for School Meals

School Year 2017-18

Name of School _____ Agreement
 Food Authority (SFA): _____ Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: CT Zip: _____

In accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) requirements for WGR exemptions in school nutrition programs ([USDA Memo SP 32-2017: School Meal Flexibilities for School Year 2017-2018](#)), the above named SFA requests an exemption from the WGR requirement for school meals during school year 2017-18. If granted, the exemption applies only while the SFA can demonstrate a continued negative impact.

PART 1 – LIST OF GRAIN PRODUCTS *(Include the specific products that are part of the SFA’s waiver request)*

PART 2 – REASONS FOR REQUEST *(Check all that apply)*

- A. Financial Hardship (Participation):** District/school records demonstrated a significant drop in meal counts after offering the WGR products listed above. *Attach supporting documentation.*
- B. Financial Hardship (Cost):** The district/school had a significant cost increase when procuring the WGR products listed above. *Attach supporting documentation.*
- C. Limited Product Availability:** The district/school does not have access to compliant WGR products in the local market and would like to offer enriched grain items temporarily. *Please describe:*
- D. Unacceptable Product Quality:** The WGR products listed above did not retain the desired texture or lost palatability during the typical holding time. *Please describe:*
- E. Poor Student Acceptability:** The WGR products listed above received significant negative student/parent feedback or increased plate waste when the district/school offered the WGR products multiple times and over a sustained period. *Please describe:*
- F. Other:** Undesirable results occurred when the district/school attempted to use WGR products. *Please describe:*

PART 3 – EFFORTS TO COMPLY WITH WGR REQUIREMENT *(Check all that apply)*

- The SFA sought technical assistance from the state agency or the manufacturer of the WGR products and followed product instructions. *Please describe:*
- Used alternative product types/brands. *List product description, manufacturer and product number:*
- Used alternative cooking methods or modified the recipe. *Please describe and provide recipes/production records:*

WGR Exemption Request for School Year 2017-18, continued

PART 4 – PLAN FOR FUTURE COMPLIANCE

Describe the SFA's plan to achieve future compliance with the full WGR requirement *after* the exemption expires.

In accordance with the requirements specified in [USDA Memo SP 32-2017: School Meal Flexibilities for School Year 2017-2018](#), the above named SFA requests an exemption from the WGR requirement for school year 2017-18. The individuals signing below certify that all information on this form is complete and accurate.

Signature of Food Service Director

Date

Signature of Authorized Signer

Date

E-mail this WGR Exemption Request to your Child Nutrition Program technical assistance support consultant. (Include Request for Exemption Whole Grain-rich Requirement in the e-mail subject line.)

STATE AGENCY USE ONLY

SCHOOL YEAR 2017-18: Request Approved* Request Denied

***The SFA will comply with the SY 2013-14 requirement to offer at least half of the grains as WGR products.**

Signature of CSDE CNP Staff

Date

Comments:

*This form is available in PDF at www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/deps/nutrition/nslp/wgrrequest.pdf
and Word at www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/word_docs/deps/nutrition/nslp/wgrrequest.doc.*

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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