

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

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_ Agreement Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Food Authority (SFA): \_\_\_\_\_

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 SP33-2016](#)), the above named SFA requests an exemption from the WGR requirement for school meals during school year 2016-17. 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, 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 SP33-2016](#), *Extension Notice: Requests for Exemption from the School Meals' Whole Grain-Rich Requirement for School Year 2016-2017*, the above named SFA requests an exemption from the WGR requirement for school year 2016-17. 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 2016-17:  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:

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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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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