



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

**EDUCATION**

## **Policy Updates Related to Coronavirus (COVID-19): Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Extended Deadline**

(June 22, 2021)

### **Background**

Local educational agencies (LEAs) that adopted Local Wellness Policies (LWPs) in 2017 were required to complete a triennial assessment of their LWP by June 30, 2020. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) established a nationwide waiver to support schools unable to complete their triennial assessment by June 30, 2020 due to school closures as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19). The USDA has established a second nationwide waiver to support schools unable to complete their triennial assessment by June 30, 2021. This second waiver is a 1-year extension of the previous waiver, and it is available to those LEAs that elected to accept the previous waiver. The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) recognizes the impact COVID-19 has had on LEAs and has elected to use the USDA waiver.

### **Scope**

This document notifies eligible LEAs about the USDA LWP triennial assessment waiver and the need to inform OSSE on or before June 30, 2021 if they intend to use the waiver and complete their LWP triennial assessment by **June 30, 2022**.

### **LWP Triennial Assessment Waiver**

- LEAs that accepted the 2020 LWP triennial assessment Waiver are eligible for this second waiver.
- The **new due date** for the LWP triennial assessment for eligible LEAs is June 30, 2022.
- Eligible LEAs wishing to accept a new deadline **must inform OSSE on or before June 30, 2021** by emailing [OSSE.SchoolHealth@dc.gov](mailto:OSSE.SchoolHealth@dc.gov) citing “LWP waiver extension” in the subject line. OSSE will acknowledge receipt of the message.
  - The LWP triennial assessment and all supporting documents will be collected by OSSE when your LEA is due for the NSLP Administrative Review.
  - Separately, OSSE will continue to collect and review your LEA’s current LWP and supporting documents as part of the annual NSLP Application.
- Eligible LEAs are **not required** to utilize the one-year waiver and **may elect** to complete their triennial assessment by June 30, 2021.

OSSE stands ready to provide support and assistance to LEAs regarding LWPs. OSSE will provide revised information, training, and resources for LWPs in the coming months. OSSE remains committed to making healthy food choices, physical activity and other school-based health activities a priority for District schools.

**Questions**

Questions and feedback may be sent to OSSE at [OSSE.SchoolHealth@dc.gov](mailto:OSSE.SchoolHealth@dc.gov).

For resources and additional information on the District of Columbia Government's response to coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit [coronavirus.dc.gov](http://coronavirus.dc.gov).