



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Food and
Nutrition
Service

Southwest Region

1100 Commerce St
Dallas, TX
75242

June 3, 2019

Steven Chavez
Bureau Chief
Food and Nutrition Services Bureau
New Mexico Human Services Department
1425 Williams S.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Dear Mr. Chavez:

This letter is in reference to the requirement from the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Farm Bill) (P.L. 115-334). Section 4102 of the Farm Bill changes CSFP certification requirements outlined in 7 C.F.R. 247.16 effective immediately.

As a result, States were required to establish new certifications periods of between one and three years for program participants. In turn, CSFP State Agencies are required to amend their State Plan. After reviewing the revisions and additions submitted to our office by New Mexico HSD, we are approving the revised State Plan effective immediately.

FNS is approving New Mexico's designated certification period not to exceed three (3) years, and on an annual basis, the local agency must 1) verify the address and continued interest of the participant; and 2) have sufficient reason to determine that the participant still meets the income eligibility standards, which may include a determination that the participant has a fixed income.

FNS will be updating program regulations at 7 C.F.R. 247 to implement the Farm Bill's CSFP revisions. In the meantime, this letter serves as approval for the modified plan received by this office on April 18, 2019.

Feel free to contact this office should you have any questions or need further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Abraham", written over a light blue horizontal line.

James Abraham
Branch Chief
Community Nutrition Programs