

Managing the Food Supply Chain

COVID-19 Impacts on School Year 2021-2022

Due to COVID-19 some School Food Authorities (SFAs) may have challenges in receiving food orders as planned. Below are some helpful tips to help manage food supply challenges to ensure student meal service continues.



Communication

Communication is a key factor to ensure that challenges related to the food supply are managed and impacted parties' expectations are proactively managed.



SUPERINTENDENTS

Brief your superintendent on the food supply landscape. Let them know the potential impact on families, students, child nutrition operations.



FAMILIES

Ensure families know that meal substitutions may occur because of supply chain issues and posted menus may change at the last minute. Social media and school website are great tools to share this message.



VENDORS

Proactively reach out to understand vendor limitations and the landscape of food supply challenges.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE **COMMISSIONER SID MILLER**

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Supply Chain Disruptions Scenarios and How to Respond

Scenario	Child Nutrition Action	Procurement Review Impact
Item is substituted with another item on the original bid	No further action is required	No procurement findings will be issued if the child nutrition actions are followed.
Item substituted with another item not on the original bid	Notate the invoice with the change	
Price of item increased to a level that is no longer affordable for my SFA	Identify alternative product and submit information through the emergency procurement process	
Item is discontinued	Identify alternative product and submit information through the emergency procurement process	

Best Practices

Taking proactive steps now can help avoid last minute menu changes.



Review on-hand inventory and distributor's product availability weekly.



Work with distributor to plan substitutes in advance.



Identify emergency meals for allergies not dependent on weekly deliveries.



Proactively review catalogs for discontinued products.



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