**Purpose**

REPLACE CACFP CCC Handbook Item 7350, *Geographic Preferences*

The United States Department of Agriculture has provided additional guidance on the meaning of “unprocessed” as it relates to the purchase of unprocessed locally grown and locally raised agricultural products. Agricultural products that have been chopped, cut, sliced, diced or shucked in order to provide the agricultural product in a useable form is now allowable.

**Implementation**

Immediately

**Procedure**

Replace Item 7350 with the following:

Contracting organizations receiving funds through the Child Nutrition Programs are allowed to apply geographic preferences when procuring unprocessed locally grown or locally raised agricultural products.

This preference can only be applied to products which are locally grown and locally raised, and that have not been cooked, seasoned, frozen, canned or combined with any other products. This does not preclude foods that have been handled and prepared to make them usable, such as washing vegetables, bagging greens, chopping, cutting, slicing, dicing or shucking, butchering livestock and poultry, pasteurizing milk and putting eggs in a carton; as well as using a minimal amount of preservatives to prevent spoilage.

**NOTE:** Milk is the only dairy production for which geographic preferences may be applied, and it must be pasteurized and meet State and local standards.

The option to allow geographic preferences when procuring unprocessed locally grown or locally raised agricultural products does not eliminate the requirement for procurements to be conducted according to the policy and procedures outlined in this handbook.

**Contact**

If you have any questions please contact your Community Operations office.

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This Policy Remains in Effect Until Further Notice
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