



## Fact Sheet for In Person Sub Study

### **STUDY PURPOSE**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is sponsoring this research study to learn about students and their households who participate in the school meal programs. The USDA wants to know more about how school meals are served and how schools determine household eligibility and report meal claims to the USDA. Your opinions and experiences are important to helping the USDA improve these programs.

### **WHY YOU WERE ASKED TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY TWICE**

Historically, these surveys have been conducted in person. This year, however, we want to see if it is possible to conduct the survey over the telephone or Zoom. Asking you to complete the survey twice, once by telephone and once in person, allows us to compare the two survey methods and understand any challenges to doing the surveys by telephone or Zoom. This will help us decide how to do these surveys in the future.

### **WHO WOULD MEET YOU FOR AN IN-PERSON SURVEY**

A survey interviewer who works for Westat will come either to your home or another nearby location of your choosing on the date and time you agree to. The interviewer will have an identification badge to confirm that she or he works for Westat.

### **BENEFITS TO SURVEY COMPLETION FOR A SECOND TIME IN PERSON**

If you participate in the survey again for a second time in person, you will receive an additional \$40 Visa gift card OR a \$60 Visa gift card depending on your level of participation. After you have completed the survey in person you will receive your payment in the form of a gift card.

## **PROTECTING YOUR DATA**

We are very serious about protecting your privacy to the full extent allowed by the law. The study is also reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board that is focused on protecting your rights and privacy and a study participant. All survey staff are required to sign a confidentiality agreement. This means they are prohibited from sharing or talking about your personal information to anyone other than authorized staff working on this research study.

Your answers will be combined with those of other participants nationwide. The study results and reports will be summarized in such a way that no individual family or child can ever be identified.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Please feel free to visit our study's website at <URL>. Note that the National School Meals Study (NSMS) is part of the larger APEC IV study on the national school lunch and breakfast programs. Therefore, you may see both names - APEC and NSMS - on the website.

You can also reach out to the NSMS team for more information by calling <TOLL FREE NUMBER> or emailing <EMAIL ADDRESS>.

This information is being collected to provide the Food and Nutrition Service with key information on the annual error rates and improper payments for the school meal programs. This is a voluntary collection and FNS will use the information to examine school meal error rates and inform future APEC studies. This collection requests personally identifiable information under the Privacy Act of 1974. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0584-0530. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 0.0334 hours (2 minutes) per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this