

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Which School Food Authorities Pay More for Food Used in USDA School Meal Programs?

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB, TB, SOR,) ERR

Agency: Economic Research Service [X] Influential Scientific Information
USDA [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: .
The USDA's National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs are operated locally by school food authorities (SFAs), usually a part of the local school district. SFAs are reimbursed at nationally-set rates for the cost of meals served to participating students. Previous ERS research found substantial variation in total costs across SFAs but did not identify the sources of those cost differences. This report examines the role of food cost differences, using a large national sample of SFAs to examine how food purchase costs vary by SFA location, characteristics and purchasing practices.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: [] Panel Review [X] Individual Reviewers
[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 11/29/17 Completed: 5/22/18 Withdrawn: XX/XX/XX

Number of Reviewers: [] 3 or fewer [x] 4 to 10 [] More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [] Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? [] Yes [X] No
If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:
How:
When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [] Yes [X] No
Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? [] Yes [X] No