

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Student Acceptance of Nutritious NSLP School Lunches

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB) ERR

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

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Subject of Review: The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and USDA instituted many changes to the National School Lunch Program, one of which is that school meals must meet new nutrition standards starting in the fall of 2012. However, there is little research available on student acceptance of meals that meet higher nutrition standards. This research addresses that question by looking at consumption patterns of students in a wide variety of school lunch environments in 2005, some of which served meals that met the new meal criteria. Specifically, the research examines whether students actually ate better meals when better meals or meal subcomponents were served. The six school food components examined were: fruit, dark green vegetables, red/orange vegetables, legumes, other vegetables, total vegetables, and whole grains. Students at schools that offered dark green vegetables, red/orange vegetables, legumes, and whole grains in their school meals were found to have eaten at least some of those foods simply because they were offered. And students who were offered school meals with dark green and red/orange vegetables in quantities that would meet the new USDA standards for those foods were found to eat more of those vegetables.

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: 1/10/13 End: 6/27/2013 Completed: 6/27/2013

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

