

36TH NATIONAL
CHILD NUTRITION CONFERENCE



USDA CACFP Policy Update

NATIONAL CACFP ASSOCIATION Featured Speaker

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Presented by



Alice McKenney, MS
 Branch Chief, Community Meals Policy Branch
 USDA Food and Nutrition Service






Andrea Farmer, MS, RD
 Branch Chief, Community Meals Program Monitoring Branch
 USDA Food and Nutrition Service



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Policy

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Nationwide Waiver Authority



- Congress did not extend FNS' nationwide waiver authority
- Current nationwide authority only permits FNS to issue nationwide waivers that apply to the 2021-22 school year
- FNS identified options for supporting program operators in transitioning back to "normal" operations

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12(I) Waiver Authority

Waivers **may be granted** provided certain conditions are met, including:

- Requester provides notice and information to public; and
- Waiver will not increase overall cost of the Program to the Federal Government
- If it does increase cost, additional cost will be paid from non-Federal funds

The Secretary **cannot waive** certain requirements, including:

- Nutritional content of meals or snacks
- Federal reimbursement rates
- Provision of free and reduced-price meals

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Current Nationwide Waivers for CACFP

Through June 30, 2022



- Meal Service Time Restrictions
- Non-Congregate Feeding
- Allow Parents and Guardians to Pick Up Meals for Children
- Meal Pattern Flexibility
- Area Eligibility for At-risk Afterschool and Family Day Care Home Providers

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Meal Service Waivers: CACFP

Flexibilities Available for SY 2022-2023
(July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

- Non-Congregate
- Meal Service Times
- Parent/Guardian Pick Up



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Expired Waivers

- Waivers of meal pattern requirements
- Area Eligibility



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Area Eligibility

Programs Impacted:

- CACFP at-risk afterschool
- CACFP family day care homes

Note: SFAs that operated regular NSLP in SY 21/22 will have school data available and are not eligible to use any new flexibilities. Only those that operated SSO.

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Area Eligibility

Option 1:

- Use School Year 2019-2020 free and reduced-price application data
- Area Eligibility determinations made with School Year 2019-2020 data will be valid for the next two program years (through SY 2024-2025)

Option 2:

- Use a process like the schools Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)
- Can *only* be used to qualify sites for area eligibility in SY 2022-2023

Note: These options only apply to SY 22-23 – these options are not available to use in future years without FNS guidance or approval

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Collection of Race and Ethnicity Data

Collection of Race and Ethnicity Data by Visual Observation and Identification in CACFP and SFSP – Policy Rescission (CACFP 11-2021, SFSP 07-2021):

Removes visual observation and identification as an allowable practice in obtaining race and ethnicity data from CACFP and the Summer Food Service Program participants

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Rules

Recently Published

- Child Nutrition Programs: Transitional Standards for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Final Rule
- Published on February 7, 2022
- Effective July 1, 2022


<https://www.fns.usda.gov/building-back-better-school-meals>

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Ounce Equivalents for Grains



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Meal Pattern Technical Corrections

- Ready-to-eat cereal for 6-11 month infants at snack is **¼ ounce** equivalent
- Milk for ages 3-5 at snack is **4 ounces**
- Cooked dry beans or peas for anyone 6 and up at snack is **¼ cup**
- **¼ cup** is equivalent to 2 ounces of yogurt
- **½ cup** is equivalent to 4 ounces of yogurt

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/meals-and-snacks>

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Research Studies

Recently Published

- Study of Nutrition and Activity in Childcare Settings in USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program I (SNACS-I)

In Progress

- Study of Nutrition and Activity in Child Care Settings II (SNACS-II)
- School Meals Operations Study (SMO-I and SMO-II)

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SNACS-I Key Findings


The diets of children in early child care programs were higher in quality (that is, better aligned with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans) on child care days than on non-child care days, as measured by Healthy Eating Index (HEI) scores.

<https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/SNACS-Summary-of-Findings.pdf>

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P-EBT

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Pandemic EBT Eligibility for School Children

- Public Health Emergency designation
- School closure, reduced attendance, or reduced hours for at least 5 consecutive days
- Child would have received free or reduced price school meals if not for the school's closure, reduced attendance, or hours


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Pandemic EBT Children in Child Care

- Public Health Emergency designation
- Child is a SNAP recipient
- Child is enrolled in a "covered child care facility"
- Closure or reduced attendance/hours of child care facility or area school




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Pandemic EBT: Program Status to Date


- \$48.4 billion in benefits to children from spring of 2020 through January 2022
- An estimated 37 million preschool and school-age beneficiaries
- States are now working with USDA on P-EBT child care plans for SY 2021-2022




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USDA P-EBT Website: State Plan Template, Q&As, and Approved State Plan Documents



www.fns.usda.gov/snap/state-guidance-coronavirus-pandemic-ebt-pebt



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OFFICE OF FOOD SAFETY



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Food Safety Resources



www.fns.usda.gov/ofs/food-safety-resources



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Keeping Food Safe in Family Child Care

Family Child Care Food Safety Kits

- Launched in 2021
- ICN sharing at conferences
- Survey to determine preferred training modalities
- Spanish translation in progress




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Child Care Center Food Safety Kits

- Prototype developed
- Sharing at conferences to gather feedback
- Coming in 2023



INSTITUTE OF *child nutrition*
RESOURCES • TRAINING • RESEARCH

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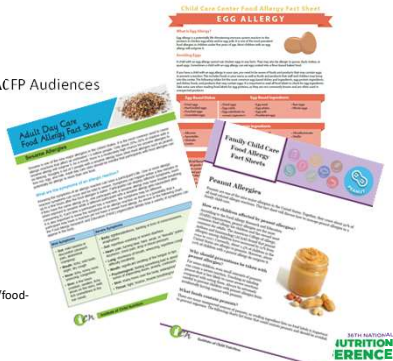
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NEW!

Food Allergy Fact Sheet Sets for CACFP Audiences

Adult Care
Child Care Centers
Family Child Care



Includes sesame as ninth major food allergen as designated by FASTER Act of 2021.

Available at <https://theicn.org/icn-resources-a-z/food-safety>

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COMING SOON!


Online Training Course Series

Food Allergies in Adult Day Care Sites

Six Individual Modules

- Recognizing and Responding to Food Allergies
- Nine Major Food Allergens and Food Intolerances
- Reading Labels
- Avoiding Cross Contact
- Outside Foods
- Accommodating Participants

<https://theicn.docebosaa.com/learn>



Learn


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Program Monitoring and Operational Support Division Update

Andrea Farmer
Branch Chief
Community Meals Program Monitoring Branch



USDA
United States Department of Agriculture

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Child Nutrition Emergency Operational Costs

Total Funds Disbursed

113 implementation plans have been approved from 54 States and U.S. territories

- 56 School Program plans approved
- 57 Child and Adult Care Food Program plans approved

A total of **\$1.47 Billion** in funding has been approved, of which **\$350 million** was for CACFP operators.



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Nationwide Waivers of On-Site Monitoring

- Allows off-site monitoring (desk audits) in CACFP and School Meal Programs for State agencies and local level operators
- Waivers are in effect until 30 days after the official end of the public health emergency (PHE)



USDA
United States Department of Agriculture



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What happens when the PHE ends?

State agencies can request waivers of onsite visits

Still related to COVID conditions

Part of the transition to "normal" operations





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Memorandum CACFP 02-2022



Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Flexibilities During COVID-19 Supply Chain Disruptions



Prioritize technical assistance in lieu of fiscal action for COVID-related supply chain disruptions in FY 2022



Exercise discretion around determining a serious deficiency due to COVID-related supply chain disruptions in FY 2022

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USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program: Managing Virtual Monitoring and Supply Chain Disruptions

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) recognizes the extraordinary efforts of Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) professionals across the Nation to prioritize program integrity and the nutritional needs of participants during this challenging time. To help navigate the coming year, FNS is clarifying existing flexibilities available to assist State agencies and local program operators in meeting the unique needs of their communities.

Virtual Monitoring Update

COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #95 and #96 allow State agencies and sponsoring organizations to continue monitoring activities of CACFP operations offsite until 30 days after the official end of the public health emergency. During the public health emergency, State agencies and sponsoring organizations have created innovative solutions to conduct offsite reviews and provide oversight of the CACFP during this unprecedented time. FNS encourages collaboration, sharing of tips, and best practices among State agencies and sponsoring organizations.



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Tips and Best Practices for Off-Site Monitoring

Communicate & Plan



Develop Standard Processes



Consider Hybrid Approach



Develop Tools & Checklists



Documentation Considerations



Practice Procedures







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Tips for Supply Chain Disruptions


Product Shortages & Food Delivery




Communicate With Vendors




Identify Alternates





Substitutions & Food Buying Guide



Food Buying Guide





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State Agency Oversight Waivers and Plans



COVID-19 Public Health Emergency created need for flexibilities



FNS provided waivers to State Agencies







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State Agency Oversight Waivers and Plans

20 CACFP waiver requests approved for FY22






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State Agency Oversight Waivers and Plans

Many States Requested



Plans Included



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Moving Forward



Continue to work closely with FNS



Looking to the future




FNS appreciates your effort!




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Community Food Systems





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Farm to School Grant Program

- In FY 2021, USDA awarded \$12 million to 177 grantees
- Since 2013, USDA has awarded nearly \$64 million to 896 projects across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and Puerto Rico



<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/farm-school-grant-program>

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USDA FARM to SCHOOL 2019 CENSUS

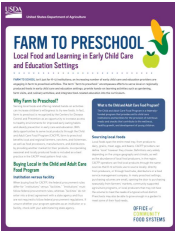
www.farmtoschoolcensus.fns.usda.gov




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Fact Sheets and E-Letter



FARM TO PRESCHOOL
Local Food and Learning in Early Child Care and Education Settings

Why Farm to Preschool?
Helping Guide to the Child and Child Care Food Program

SPONSOR OF COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS



The Dirt
News and Notes from FTSN's Community Food Systems


www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/fact-sheets <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/e-letter-archive>

FarmToSchool@usda.gov

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Team Nutrition Resources



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The Team Nutrition Initiative Supports the Child Nutrition Programs by:

- 1** Developing nutrition education resources to help children make healthy food and physical activity choices as part of a healthy lifestyle
- 2** Providing training and technical assistance for child nutrition professionals to enable them to prepare and serve nutritious meals that appeal to participants
- 3** Providing technical resources to support healthy school & child care environments

TeamNutrition.USDA.gov



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Team Nutrition Web Quizzes

Topics include:

- Infant Nutrition
- Toddler Nutrition
- Older Adult Nutrition
- Milk in the CACFP
- ...and more!

fns.usda.gov/tn/quizzes

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Quick and Easy Lunch and Supper Recipes



New CACFP Recipes Available



Try Something New!
#CACFP



fns.usda.gov/tn/team-nutrition-recipes

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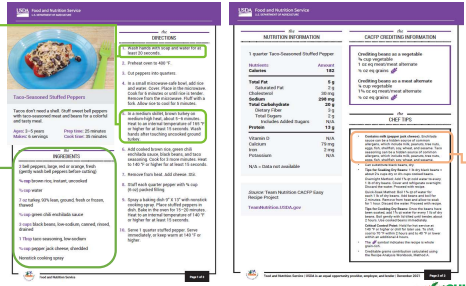
Key Features of Quick and Easy Recipes

Safety Tips

- Hand washing
- Cooking ground turkey

Limited Ingredients

- Average 5-7 ingredients per recipe
- Common ingredients



Allergen Information

- Contains Milk

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Let's Make a Snack!

New!

Let's Make a Snack!
CACFP Snack Menu Planner

Child and Adult Care Food Program
Snack Menu Planner for
Children 3 Through 18 Years of Age

fns.usda.gov/tn/lets-make-snack

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CACFP Menu Planning 101

Presented by:
Mimi Wu, MS, RD; Xaviera Davis, MS; Heather Burkhead, MS

Program Admin/Operations Track | CEU Specialty 2

Thursday, April 21

1:15 to 3:30 pm

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Coming Soon:

It's Breakfast Time! CACFP Breakfast Menu Planner

Child and Adult Care Food Program
Breakfast Menu Planner for Serving
Children 3 Through 18 Years of Age

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CACFP Halftime: Thirty on Thursdays Training Webinars

May 5, 2022: Serving Adult Participants in the CACFP

July 21, 2022: Breakfast Basics

English: 2-2:30 p.m. ET
Spanish: 3-3:30 p.m. ET

Over 20 recorded webinars available on demand!

fns.usda.gov/tn/halftime-cacfp-thirty-thursdays-training-webinar-series

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Team Nutrition CACFP Grains Oz Eq Resources Webpage

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fns.usda.gov/tn/grains-ounce-equivalents-resources-cacfp

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CACFP Meal Pattern Training Slides

- Designed for interactive 30-minute trainings
- Over 20 presentations available in both English and Spanish

fns.usda.gov/tn/meal-pattern-training-slides-cacfp

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Food Buying Guide Digital Resources

- Easy search & navigation
- Compare
- Favorites list
- Select serving size (fruits & vegetables)

fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-for-child-nutrition-programs

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Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs: Training Resources

- Webinar Recordings
 - Now available with Spanish Captioning:
 - Navigating the Food Buying Guide Calculator
 - How to Maximize the Exhibit A Grains Tool
- Training Videos
- Interactive Training Modules

fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-training-resources

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Revised Crediting Handbook for the CACFP

- Introduction
- Definitions and Explanations
- Updated Meal Patterns
- Meal Components
- Crediting in Action
- Resources

fns.usda.gov/tn/crediting-handbook-child-and-adult-care-food-program

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Team Nutrition Resource Webpages in English and Spanish

These worksheets can be used to empower DMS and ARA/ Care Food Program (CACFP) providers and operators with the knowledge, skills and expertise to implement CACFP meal pattern requirements.

Disponibilidad
 Estos hojas de trabajo se pueden usar para fortalecer el conocimiento, las habilidades y la experiencia de los proveedores (los operadores del Programa de Alimentos para el Cuidado de Niños/Adultos CACFP) que se les pide en el hogar para implementar los requisitos del patrón de comidas del CACFP.

Availability
 Order Print Copies: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/crediting-handbook-child-and-adult-care-food-program>. These are available for schools, CACFP providers, sponsoring organizations, and state agencies that participate in or administer one of USDA's child nutrition programs. All are welcome to download these materials and make copies. To download the file, please right-click on the link and "save link as."

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Team Nutrition CACFP Organizations

Enrolled Team Nutrition CACFP Organizations:

- Receive exclusive printed materials (Milk Bingo, Stickers, etc.)
- Are displayed in the online network

fns.usda.gov/tn/cacfp

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Find and Update a Team Nutrition CACFP Organization

TEAM NUTRITION CACFP

To find a CACFP organization, enter search terms to the left. After you click on the Search, the results will appear below. If an organization is listed, but information is outdated, click the "Update CACFP Organization" link and send us the updated information. If your organization is not listed, try searching using just the zip code or State name. If your organization is not a CACFP organization and would like to sign up, visit: [Team Nutrition CACFP organizations](https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/cacfp/organizations). If you need additional assistance, please email us at TeamNutrition@usda.gov

Search Results: 13

Capital Area YMCA
 433 Pennington Avenue
 Trenton, New Jersey 08609

fns.usda.gov/tn/cacfp/search

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Thank you!

 [TeamNutrition.USDA.gov](https://www.teamnutrition.usda.gov)

 [@TeamNutrition](https://twitter.com/TeamNutrition)

 TeamNutrition@USDA.gov

THE TEAM NUTRITION Enewsletter



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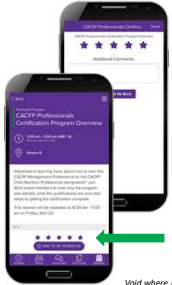
Questions?






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Evaluate This Session

Use the NCNC22 app to evaluate sessions you attend and be automatically entered to win a \$100 Visa gift card.



Void where prohibited or restricted by law.

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