

Seamless Summer Option Rural Designations ~Media Release



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MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

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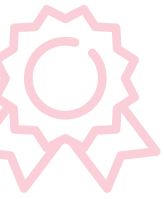
VISION

To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens



MISSION

To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community



1

ALL Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas



2

EVERY Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career



3

EVERY Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program

EVERY School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders

4



EVERY Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

5

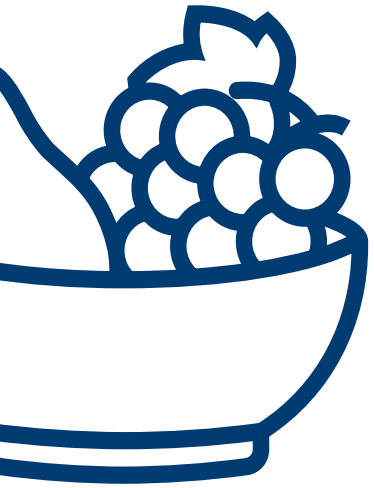


EVERY School and District is Rated "C" or Higher

6



- Schools participating in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program are eligible to apply for SSO
- SFAs participating in the SSO are required to serve meals meeting the NSLP meal pattern.
- Only School Food Authorities (SFAs) administering the NSLP or SBP may participate.
- Standard NSLP/SBP reimbursement rates apply for SSO.
- Current NSLP/SBP meal patterns must be followed in the SSO.



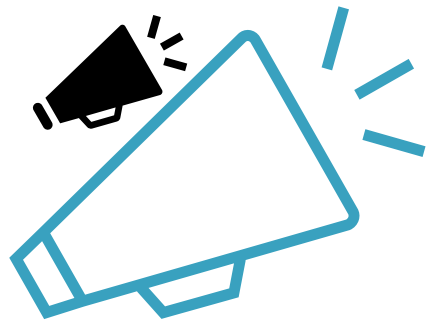
- Meals are reimbursed at the free rates for school lunches, school breakfasts, and afterschool snacks, which are slightly lower than the Summer Food Service Program rates.
- Located in eligible areas (50%) may serve free meals to children, age 18 years and under.
- Meals served under the SSO are reimbursed at NSLP/SBP applicable free rates

Memo: SFSP 04 – 2015 (v,3)



- Rural means NOT in a Metropolitan Statistical Area or any ‘pocket’ within one that, at the option of the State with FNS concurrence, is geographically isolated from urban areas
- Rural Designation Map, a tool designating which sites are rural or urban
- Rural/urban areas receive a higher reimbursement rate –self prep sites

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/rural-designation>



- Sponsors are required to inform families of the availability and location of free meals when school is not in session [7 CFR 210.12(d)].
- The purpose of the media release is to announce the availability of free meals, the nondiscrimination policy, and **complaint procedures** if an individual wishes to file a complaint for violation of non-discrimination policy.
- Enrolled sites/camps must include the reduced-price income eligibility guidelines



Provide a copy of a proposed media release with the application. **The application may not be approved without it.**

APPLICATION AND PLANNING

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

Sample News Release:
Enrolled Sites and Camps

[Name of sponsor] is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all eligible children free of charge. (To be eligible to receive free meals at a residential or non-residential camp, children must meet the income guidelines for reduced-price meals in the National School Lunch Program. The income guidelines for reduced-price meals by family size are listed on the next page.) Children who are part of households that receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly foods stamps) benefits or benefits under the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) are automatically eligible to receive free meals.

Acceptance and participation requirements for the Program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals will be provided at the sites and times as follows:

[List all sites and the starting and ending times of meal service for each site]

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

- Attachment 13 provides sample news releases for open and closed enrolled sites that sponsors can use as templates to craft their outreach message
- Reminder to include the full nondiscrimination statement or a link to the full non-discrimination statement

Always have the child's parent sign a Media Release Form (Attachment 13) before using their photo or recorded image to promote your Program



- Request for Satellite or Self Prep Sites Inspection
- Vended meals ~ a copy of the agreement
- Media Releases
- **Description of distribution strategy**
- **Waivers for example parent pick up or area eligibility**

Districts that are working with Child Care Centers that are Licensed through MSDH will need menus approval through the Health Department





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Full Non-Discrimination Statement link:
<https://mdek12.org/sites/default/files/documents/ocn/usda-nondiscrimination-statement-2016.pdf>



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