



Overview of USDA Food and Nutrition Service Programs, 2010 Child Nutrition Reauthorization and Afterschool Programs

Afterschool programs can access funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). These federal funds are available to reimburse schools and non-profit organizations for nutritious snacks and meals served to children and youth in afterschool programs. Accessing these funds depends on the economic characteristics of the community being served; for example, eligibility to access funds is often linked to the percent of students that qualify for free and reduced price meals and snacks.

This document provides an overview of the USDA food programs available for use by eligible afterschool programs, including information on reimbursement rates, and program and area eligibility. It also offers highlights from the 2010 Child Nutrition Reauthorization and its impact on afterschool programs. For more information, please visit: <http://www.fns.usda.gov> or your state’s administering agency.

Afterschool Programs Eligible for CACFP Include:

- Public or Private Non-Profit Organizations
- For-Profit Organizations with 25% of enrolled children eligible for free/reduced meals or Title XX beneficiaries
- Non-residential child care for children in an approved afterschool care program
- Programs participating in CACFP as an independent or sponsored center

USDA Food and Nutrition Service Programs for Out-of-School-Time Providers				
	Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk Afterschool Component	CACFP Outside-School-Hours Care Component	Afterschool Care Snack Service through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)	Summer Food Service Program
Program/ Site Eligibility	Afterschool program must: -Operate after school, on weekends, and/or holidays - Meet State or local care licensing requirements, or local health and safety standards - Provide regularly	Afterschool program must: - Provide regularly scheduled child care services - Meet State or local child care licensing requirements, or local health and safety standards	Afterschool program must: -Be sponsored or operated by a school district - Be located in a district where at least one school participates in NSLP - Organized athletic	- Sites are eligible as Open, Enrolled, or Camps: - <u>Open</u> : located in a low-income area and eligible to serve free meals and snacks to all children in the community - <u>Enrolled</u> : serve only those children enrolled in the program. If at

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	scheduled, organized activities that are educational or enriching (excluding organized athletic programs) - Be located in a school attendance area where at least 50% of enrolled children are certified eligible for free or reduced-price school meals	- Be distinct from any organized extracurricular programs for scholastics or athletics	programs in interscholastic or community level competitive sports are ineligible.	least 50% of the children enrolled are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, then reimbursement will be provided for free meals and snacks served to all of the enrolled children. - <u>Camps</u> : only reimbursed for serving free meals and snacks to kids that are individually eligible for free and reduced-price meals.
Eligible Children	Children age 18 or under (at start of school year).	Children age 12 or younger.	Children age 18 or under (at start of school year).	Children age 18 and under; and young adults with disabilities enrolled in educational programs.
Eligible Meals Per Day*	Up to 1 snack and 1 meal per child	Up to 2 meals and 1 snack per child	1 snack when served on regular school days only (afterschool programs operating during weekends or school breaks are not eligible to receive reimbursements through this program).	Generally up to 2 meals or 1 meal and 1 snack per child, with some exceptions depending on site type.

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How Reimbursement is Provided	Program providers receive the “free” rate reimbursement for every meal or snack served to participating children. All snacks and meals must be provided free to every child.	Program providers receive the “free,” “reduced-price,” or “paid” rate for each meal or snack served to participating children depending on each child’s individual income.	<p>If the afterschool program is located in an area eligible school, where at least 50% of enrolled children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, program providers receive the “free” rate for every snack served. All snacks must be provided free to every child.</p> <p>If not located in an area eligible school, program providers receive the “free,” “reduced-price,” or “paid” rate for each snack served to participating children depending on each child’s individual income.</p>	Reimbursement varies depending on open, enrolled, or camp site designations.

The national average reimbursement rates for meals and snacks served in afterschool settings are adjusted in July of each year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. Please see below for current reimbursement rate information for the food programs offered by USDA:

Description of Reimbursement Rates - Effective from July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

Type of Meal	CACFP Centers/ NSLP Afterschool Snacks			SFSP*
	Free	Red. Price	Paid	
Breakfast	1.48	1.18	.26	1.8450
Lunch/ Supper	2.72	2.32	.26	3.2375
Snack	.74	.37	.06	.7575

* SFSP rates are published every January. Higher rates are available for rural and self-prep sites.

2010 Child Nutrition Reauthorization: Nationwide Expansion of At-Risk Afterschool Meals in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, Public Law 111-296, was signed into law on December 13, 2010. The Act extends eligibility for at-risk afterschool meal reimbursement to all States. Specific provisions in the law relevant to afterschool programs are described below. Regulations and guidance regarding the implementation of an afterschool meal program can be found at www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/care/Afterschool.htm.

Relevant Section of Legislation	Impact on Afterschool Programs	Funding
Sec. 122. Expansion of afterschool meals for at-risk children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expands CACFP afterschool meals for at risk children to all States (previously available only in 14 States) - Requires USDA to issue guidelines and publish a handbook within 180 days after enactment. 	Mandatory funding, amount determined by meals x rate formula
Sec. 337. Study of CACFP supper program	- Requires a study and Report to Congress. Report must address best practices for soliciting sponsors and any Federal or State laws that may be a barrier to participation.	None

Conclusion

This information is intended to help afterschool programs access federal resources to provide children and youth with nutritious meals and snacks in the out-of-school hours. For many children and families, afterschool programs provide a vital source of healthy food options and opportunities to reinforce healthy eating habits. While knowledge of eligibility is important and some record-keeping is required, Federal resources are available to help program leaders meet the nutrition needs of the children they serve.

Links for More Information

USDA Food and Nutrition Service

<http://www.fns.usda.gov>

List of State Agencies administering CACFP, NSLP and SFSP

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Contacts/StateDirectory.htm>

Income Eligibility Guidelines

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/notices/iegs/iegs.htm>

Food Research and Action Center

<http://frac.org/federal-foodnutrition-programs/afterschool-programs/>