

**Summer Food Service Program**



# Program Bulletin

***Child Nutrition Programs***

*Finance & Support Services*

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**To:** SFSP Sponsors

Program Reviewers

**From:** Rhonda Biles

Program Specialist

**Date:** October 15, 2019

**Bulletin:** 2020-1

**Subject:** USDA Policy Memos and Information

**USDA Policy Memos, Information, and Guidance:**

* SFSP 16-2019 – Rescission of Summer Food Service Program Guidance on Targeted State Agency Reviews of Sponsors and Sites
* SP40 CACFP17 SFSP17-2019 – Smoothies Offered in Child Nutrition Programs
* 2020 SFSP Area Eligibility Data

**Additional Topics:**

* Greetings from the New SFSP Program Specialist
* SFSP Year-End Survey Summary
* Farm to Summer Week Thank You
* SFSP 2020 Application Deadline
* Final 2019 Claim Submissions

**Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance, and compliance with the Summer Food Service Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Programs office if you need further clarification.**

## USDA Policy Memos, Information, and Guidance:

All guidance referenced below may be found on the Department of Education and Early Development, [Child Nutrition website](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp/sfsp3) or on the [USDA Policy Memorandum webpage](https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/policy).

### SFSP 16-2019

**Rescission of Summer Food Service Program Guidance on Targeted State Agency Reviews of Sponsors and Sites**

This memorandum rescinds the memorandum Targeted State Agency Reviews of Sponsors and Sites in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP, issued on March 23, 2000). The rescinded memorandum provides incorrect instructions to State agencies for calculating the cumulative total dollar amount of SFSP meal reimbursements.

### SP40-2019, CACFP17-2019, SFSP17-2019

**Smoothies Offered in the Child Nutrition Programs**

This memorandum clarifies juice and yogurt allowances based on the child care and preschool meal pattern updates and incorporates the meal pattern flexibilities related to flavored milk. The flavored milk flexibilities apply to the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and the Special Milk Program for Children effective beginning in school year 2019-2020 (July 1, 2019). Lastly, this memorandum changes the policy for commercially prepared smoothies. Commercially prepared smoothies can now contribute to the meat/meat alternate, fruit, vegetable, and milk components of the federal meal requirements for all child nutrition programs (CNPs). Allowing commercially prepared products provides variety to program operators seeking to include appealing and nutritious smoothies on their menus. This memorandum supersedes all previous guidance on smoothies including SP 10-2014 (v.3), CACFP 05-2014 (v.3), SFSP 10-2014 (v.3).

### Fiscal Year 2020 CACFP and SFSP Area Eligibility Data Now Available

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is excited to announce that the 2020 Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) participant Area Eligibility data are now available!

At the start of every fiscal year, FNS releases a special tabulation of data provided by the Census Bureau for CACFP and SFSP that establishes area eligibility in the CACFP and SFSP. These data are effective as of October 1, 2019.

The FNS mapping tools have also been updated to reflect the new data. To see the map, click this [link](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http:/links.govdelivery.com:80/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbXNpZD0mYXVpZD0mbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTkxMDAzLjExMDEzNDkxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE5MTAwMy4xMTAxMzQ5MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE2Nzk0Mzg0JmVtYWlsaWQ9am8uZGF3c29uQGFsYXNrYS5nb3YmdXNlcmlkPWpvLmRhd3NvbkBhbGFza2EuZ292JnRhcmdldGlkPSZmbD0mbXZpZD0mZXh0cmE9JiYm&&&100&&&https:**Awww.fns.usda.gov*areaeligibility__;Ly8v!9_CTV20a17M!6wskVCm09mz7xegG78Q0Jx56hNzOHedDNHaDSwAviSplZugn94EnPrahfmFAM5kROxI$). The data set is also available for download on FNS’ [open data site](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http:/links.govdelivery.com:80/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbXNpZD0mYXVpZD0mbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTkxMDAzLjExMDEzNDkxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE5MTAwMy4xMTAxMzQ5MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE2Nzk0Mzg0JmVtYWlsaWQ9am8uZGF3c29uQGFsYXNrYS5nb3YmdXNlcmlkPWpvLmRhd3NvbkBhbGFza2EuZ292JnRhcmdldGlkPSZmbD0mbXZpZD0mZXh0cmE9JiYm&&&101&&&http:**Adata-cacfp-sfsp.opendata.arcgis.com*__;Ly8v!9_CTV20a17M!6wskVCm09mz7xegG78Q0Jx56hNzOHedDNHaDSwAviSplZugn94EnPrahfmFAQQsl6zk$).

To learn more about using census data for establishing area eligibility for CACFP and SFSP Area Eligibility using Census Data, please see the USDA [policy memorandum](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http:/links.govdelivery.com:80/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbXNpZD0mYXVpZD0mbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTkxMDAzLjExMDEzNDkxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE5MTAwMy4xMTAxMzQ5MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE2Nzk0Mzg0JmVtYWlsaWQ9am8uZGF3c29uQGFsYXNrYS5nb3YmdXNlcmlkPWpvLmRhd3NvbkBhbGFza2EuZ292JnRhcmdldGlkPSZmbD0mbXZpZD0mZXh0cmE9JiYm&&&102&&&https:**Awww.fns.usda.gov*area-eligibility-child-nutrition-programs__;Ly8v!9_CTV20a17M!6wskVCm09mz7xegG78Q0Jx56hNzOHedDNHaDSwAviSplZugn94EnPrahfmFAYkbdl7c$).

Please note that the map works best when opened in the following browsers: Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox.

## Additional Topics:

### New SFSP Program Specialist

Hello everybody and greetings from the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), Summer Foods Services Program desk! I’d like to introduce myself, Rhonda Biles. I am the new SFSP Program Specialist here at DEED, Child Nutrition Programs. Originally from California, I moved to Alaska over 26 years ago, and I have been employed by the State of Alaska for 20 years, and all of that time has been spent working at DEED. My previous job was the DEED Budget Analyst and I am excited to now be part of the Child Nutrition team. I very much look forward to working with all of you and with my extremely knowledgeable coworkers. They have been tremendously helpful and I will be working closely with them to ensure that this time of staffing transition will be as seamless as possible to the SFSP community.

### SFSP Year-End Survey Summary

Thanks to all who participated in the year-end summer survey. Your feedback is important and provides the state an opportunity to review its processes and make adjustments to better support SFSP participants.

The reported number one challenge that SFSP participants faced was short-staffing, both at the state level and at the sponsor/site level. We understand and at the state level we are striving to ensure the Child Nutrition team is fully staffed for the years ahead. The survey also reported that one of the reasons for increased program participation was continuity of staff, and a reason for decreased participation was short-staffing, so it seems clear that a fully staffed program aids in program success.

A reported reason for a barrier that affected participation was lack of activities provided at program sites. Here is a link from the USDA FNS website which features sponsors that have successfully integrated activities into their programs. There are some interesting ideas!

[SFSP Best Practices – Activities](https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/sfsp-best-practices-activities). Also, if you have an activity that made your program more successful, we invite you to send it to us to include in the next SFSP bulletin to share with the Alaska SFSP community.

### Farm to Summer Week Thank you

A big shout out and thank you to the Cordova School District, Hydaburg City School District, Juneau School District (L.E.A.P.) and Petersburg Schools for taking part in the Farm to Summer Week! Way to go on sourcing foods direct from individual food producers. Some of the specific items that were sourced include peas, lettuce carrots, melon (!), salmon, pollack, raspberries, potatoes and squash. Alaska has lots to offer from local sources! If you would like to read and learn more about how to participate in the Farm to Summer Week, check out the links below. It’s a great time to start planning for the 2020 Farm to Summer Week!

[USDA Community Food Systems](https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs)

[USDA Community Food Systems – Program Operator](https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/program-operator)

### SFSP 2020 Application Deadline April 15

Please note that the application deadline to participate in the FY2020 Summer Food Service Program year will be April 15, 2020. The deadline is earlier than this past year’s deadline, so please plan accordingly to ensure that your agency will be prepared to have all required documentation submitted by this date.

### Final 2019 Claim Submissions

Just a reminder to please submit your final 2019 claims so you can get reimbursed timely for your services and the state can close out the year.

**Contact Information**

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(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: [USDA Complaint Email](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov) (program.intake@usda.gov).

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