Community Child Nutrition Snack Pilot

Most Frequently Asked Questions…and Answers!

 ⍓ Are all types of afterschool programs eligible for these snack funds?

Yes. Unlike the CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Snack Program, this pilot program does <u>not</u> require any specific enrichment or educational activities to qualify. Drop-in programs, structured or unstructured, recreation programs and closed/enrolled programs are all eligible to participate.

 ⍓ Can sponsors switch vendors from summer lunches to year-round snacks, including changing from vended to self-prep?

Yes. Sponsors can change vending contracts as well as begin preparing their own snacks on-site. If the change affects the administrative budget, sponsors should revise their budgets to update changes in expenses. What food costs can be counted as "operating costs" for sponsors using donated food through a local food bank food?

All costs associated with serving snacks should be included in budget estimates. Reimbursements cover costs associated with procuring, preparing and distributing snacks.

 ⍓ Can different sites under the same sponsor work directly with different vendors?

As long as any cost variances among sites are included in the budget, sponsors and sites can acquire food through any approved vendor.

 ⍓ Can a site participate in the year-round snack program if it was not a summer lunch site?

Yes. As long as the sponsoring agency had at least one SFSP site, it does not matter if locations change for the year-round afterschool snack pilot.

 ⍓ What size snacks should I serve?

Serve age-appropriate, nutritious snacks for the kids. Sponsors should serve a snack including a minimum two components, as described in the SFSP Administrative Guide

 ⍓ Where do I get snacks? Can I use the same vendor as during summer?

You can use your summer vendor for afterschool snacks. Many afterschool snack programs prepare their own snacks, using food purchased at a local market.

 ⍓ Is this snack program available to closed sites (only kids signed up in the program) and enrolled (individual qualifying) sites?

Sponsors may choose to operate an open or enrolled site. If the site operates differently during the school year than the summer (such as changing from an open site to an enrolled site), the site information sheet should reflect that status.

✎ Can snacks be served any time of day?

During non-school days, snacks can be served at any time. On school days, snacks can only be served after school.

✎ Can you serve people in high-school who are older than 18?

No. Summer Food Service Program funds are limited to persons 18 years of age and under.

✎ Can you purchase commodities?

No. Commodity entitlements are not provided for snacks, but sponsors who have leftover commodities from summer can use them during this snack program.

✎ Is there a minimum or maximum snack service time?

Sites may choose <u>and</u> post the snack time that is most sensible for program operations. Snack service times can range from 15 minutes at small, structured programs up to 60 minutes at large drop-in, recreational programs. If sponsors need to increase snack period beyond one hour, a waiver request with justification may be sent to the Nutrition Services Division

✎ Can you provide sample menus?

Efforts are underway to gather and distribute snack menus.

✎ Does the new summer lunch memo – about flexible site rules for eating areas and off-site consumption -- also apply to this pilot project?

Yes. All applicable SFSP rules apply. Sponsors are encouraged to use their best judgment when establishing site-level operations and are urged to take staff experience, facility constraints and supervision into consideration when making changes.

✎ Can part of the snack leave the site?

Yes. Sponsors may allow one, non-perishable component of the snack to leave the site. Sponsors and staff are encouraged to use their best judgment. Many sites use goodie boxes to collect and redistribute leftovers.

✎ Can kids have seconds?

As in SFSP, sponsors may receive reimbursements for seconds, up to 2% of daily snack counts. Goodie boxes reduce food waste and provide seconds.

Submit additional questions to Tim.Thole@fns.usda.gov

Answers and updates are posted at: http://www.cfpa.net/Snacks/snackattack.html