

Summer Food Service Program

*Summer Meals Matter
Food That's In...When
School is*



What is the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)?

The SFSP is a federally-funded program administered at state-level by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE).

The SFSP serves healthy meals to children (18 years and under), at no-charge (free), in low-income areas, during the summer months when school is not in session.

Why Should I Get Involved?

There are not enough meal service sites in the state (only 14% children eligible during the school year receive summer meals).

SFSP helps prevent “summer slide.” Studies show that when children do not get proper nutrition during the summer, they fall behind academically when returning to school in the fall.

How Can You Help?

Become a Sponsor that runs the program in your community.

Become a meal site that works with an existing sponsor and provides a safe location for children to eat.

What is a SFSP Sponsor?

- ◆ Sponsors are non-profit organizations (501(c)3 status).
- ◆ Sponsors are trained by PDE and complete the application process — handle the administrative responsibilities of the program — manage the sites— submit and receive the claims for reimbursement..
- ◆ Sponsors find the sites — staff the sites — train the staff and any volunteers — arrange for the meals — maintain the paperwork and records.
- ◆ Sponsors operate and manage any number of sites, from one to 100, based on need of the community and the sponsor’s administrative capability.

What is a SFSP Site?

- ◆ Places in the community that are income-eligible where meals are served, and the children eat.
- ◆ Sites work directly with their Sponsor.

There are three common types of sites:

Open sites - serve all children in the area where 50 percent or more of the children residing in the area are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. All qualified meals served are reimbursed.

Enrolled sites – serve an identified group of children where at minimum, ½ are identified as free/ reduced eligible for meals. All qualified meals served are reimbursed.

Camps – serve residential and nonresidential camp children. Only qualified meals served to individual children who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals are reimbursed.



The SFSP Website: www.education.pa.gov/sfsp



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