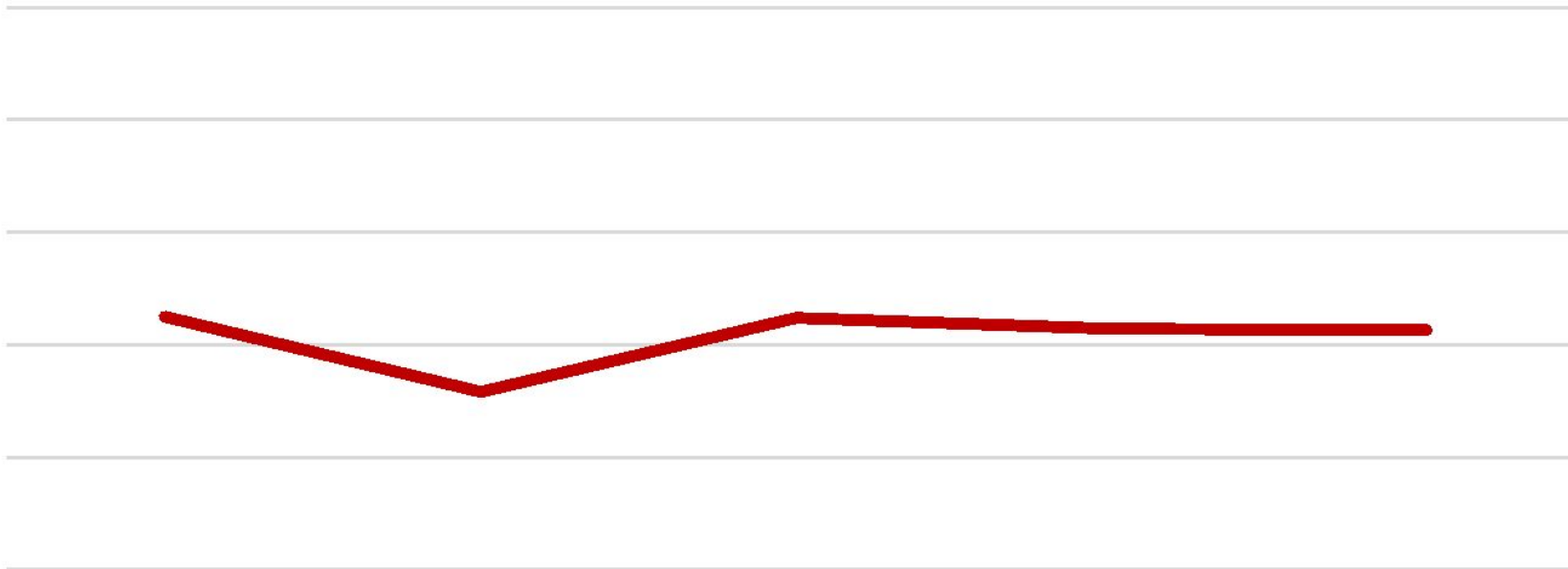


The Summer Experience: SUN Bucks and Sun Meals To-Go

Telling the Story: Summer 2024

Performance Measures – Pre-COVID

USDA's Traditional SFSP "Coverage Rate" 2015-2019



Note: All graphs in this section exclude one outlier data point.

Performance Measures – Pre-COVID

Summer Meal Counts (millions) 2015-2019



Perspectives on Traditional Congregate Model

Two USDA Summer Studies - and a Changed Program

Landscapes

2018



38% of non-participants indicated that free transportation might encourage their participation.



Others cited concerns about safety and lack of time to finish meals as barriers to participation at traditional congregate sites.

2021



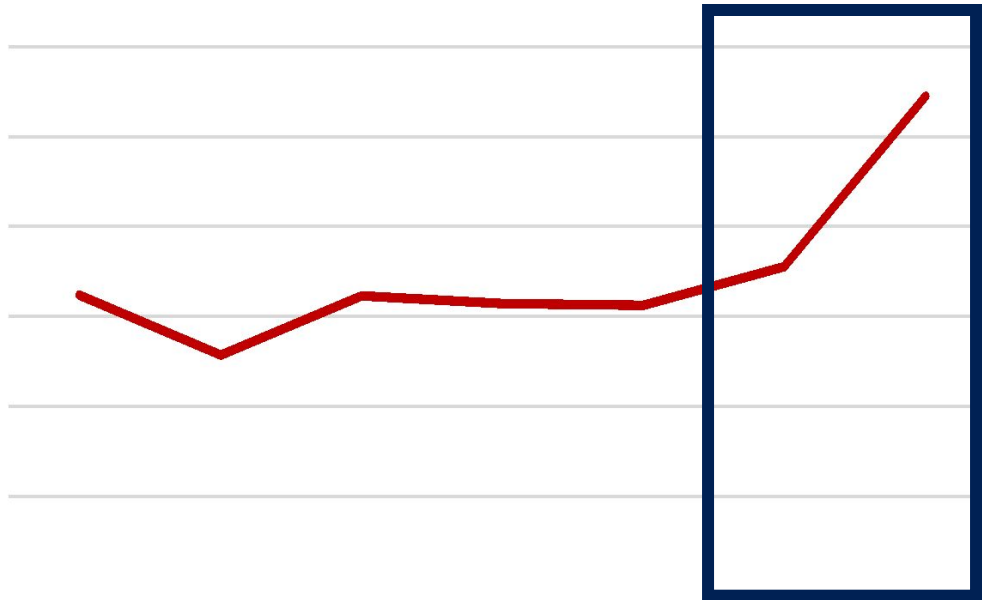
Sponsors and sites report that SFSP's congregate requirement "impedes their ability to serve all the children who need meals ... particularly in rural areas."



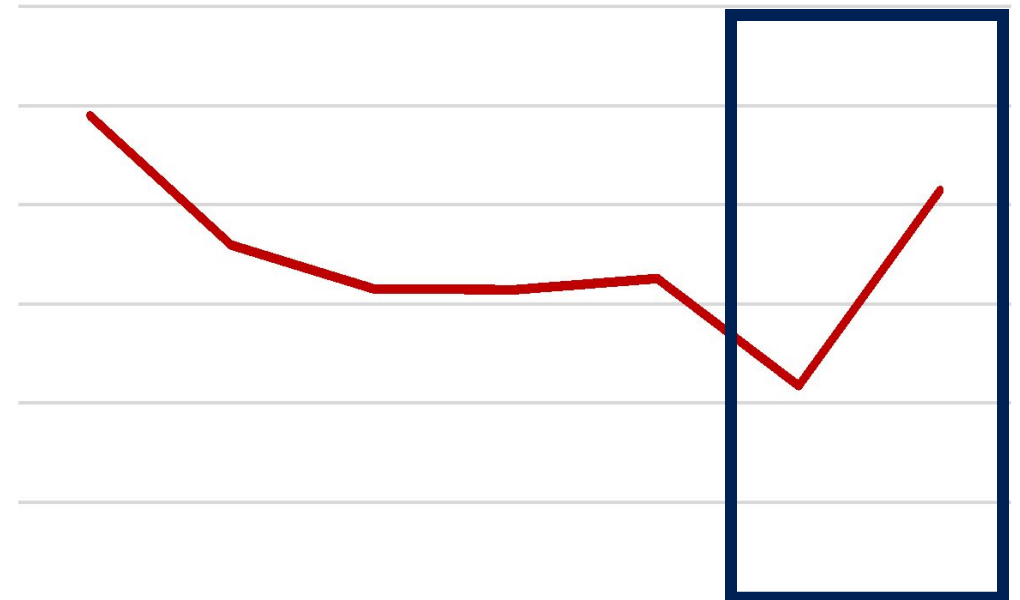
The COVID-era non-congregate waiver allowed sponsors to serve more children; "it would be difficult for programs and families alike if the congregate ... requirement were reinstated."

Performance Measures – through 2024

Summer Coverage Rate



Summer Meal Counts



Performance Measures by Population Density

Summer Coverage Rate

Summer Coverage Rate 2024 Compared to 2015-2019 Average			
	U.S.	10 Most Densely Populated States	10 Least Densely Populated States
2015-2019 average	16.6%	24.2%	16.7%
2024	19.0%	24.0%	29.9%
Percent change	14.4%	-1.0%	79.1%

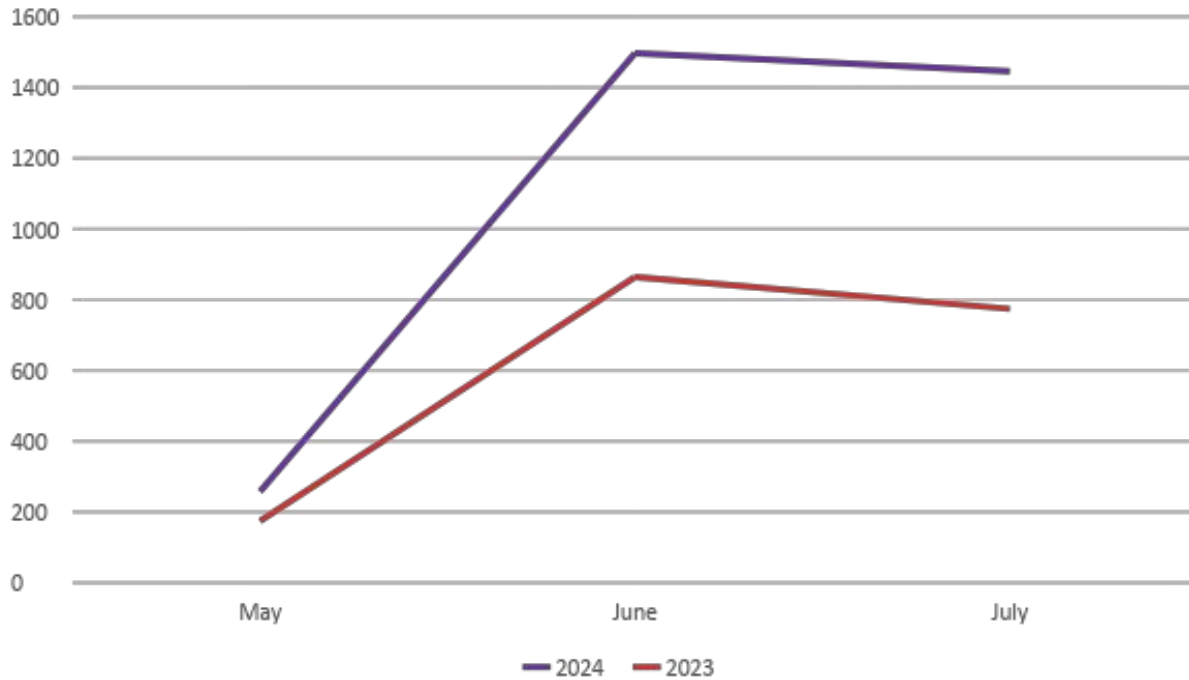
Performance Measures by Population Density

Summer Meal Counts

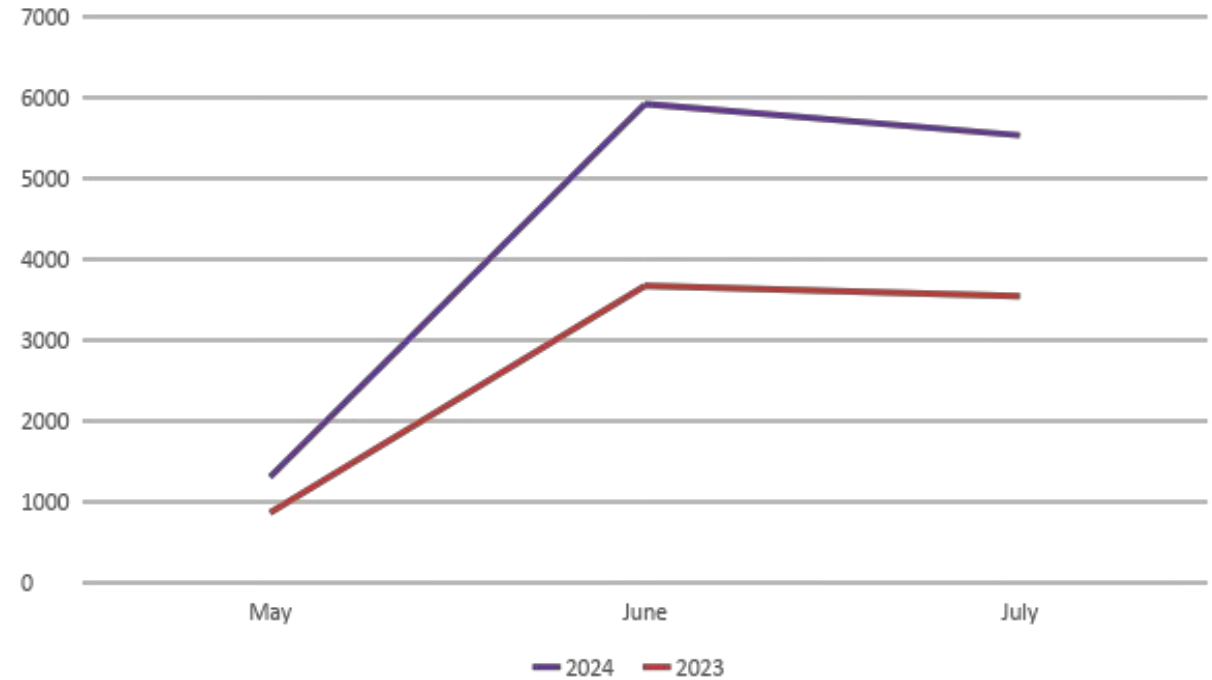
Summer Meal Counts 2024 Compared to 2015-2019 Average (millions)			
	U.S.	10 Most Densely Populated States	10 Least Densely Populated States
2015-2019 average	96.1	31.7	4.4
2024	101.5	30.7	5.3
Percent change	5.6%	-3.3%	21.7%

Summer Non-Congregate Meals Service Survey

Summer Non-Congregate Sponsors 2023 and 2024

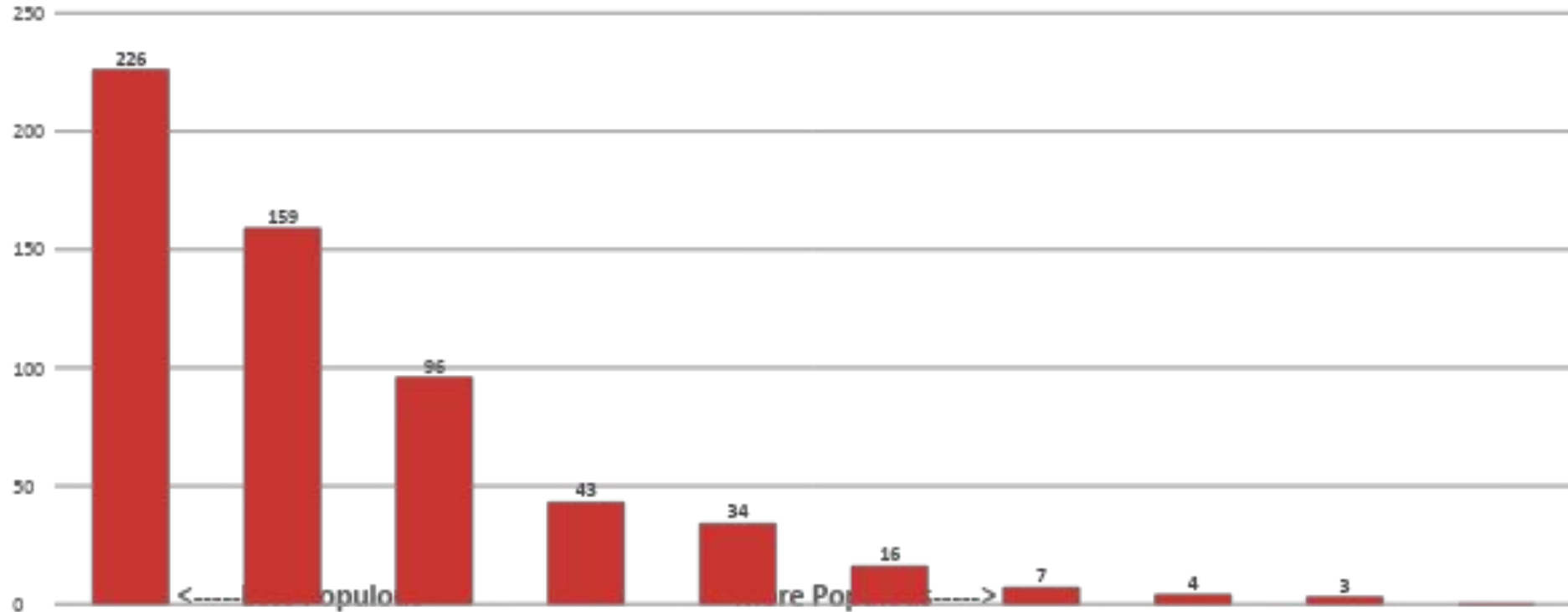


Summer Non-Congregate Sites 2023 and 2024



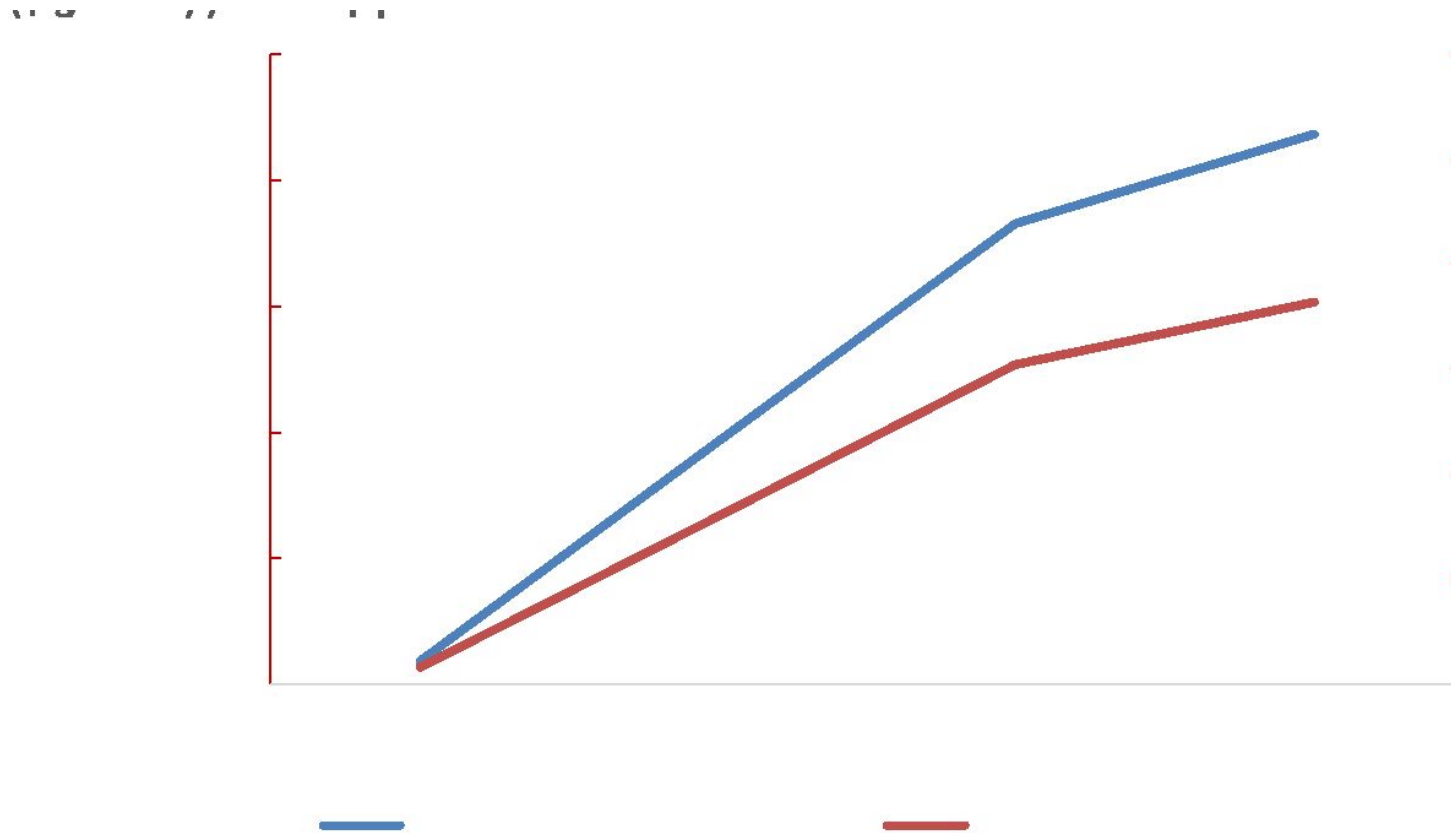
Data from USDA Site Finder

Number of NEW Zip Codes, Population Density (2024)



Summer EBT

Cumulative Issuances and Participants - Summer 2024



Summer EBT Updates and Resources

Summer EBT Success



Summer EBT provided food benefits to 19 million children *and counting* in Summer 2024



Collaboration and Partnership

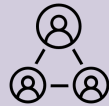


45 agencies implemented Summer EBT

- 38 States, including the District of Columbia
- 2 Tribal Nations
- All 5 U.S. Territories



Creativity and Innovation



Passion and Commitment

Check out our resource page!



Summer 2025

- 49 iPOMs received
- 46 iPOMs approved

- 7 POMs received
- 1 POM approved

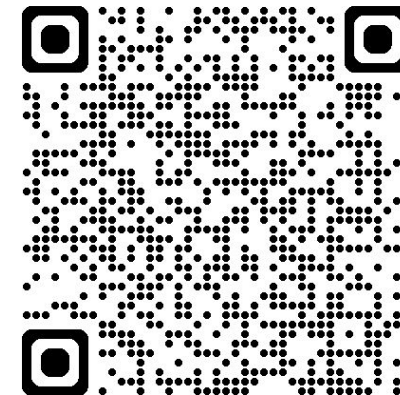
- Get your POMs in early!



Summer EBT Database Requirements Resource

FNS has released the new Summer EBT NSLP/SBP Database Requirements FAQ.

- This guidance details what information must be included in the database and provides answers to frequently asked questions received from agencies.
- Code for America has also developed *The Summer EBT Student Database Requirement*, a new Summer EBT Playbook resource available to agencies now.



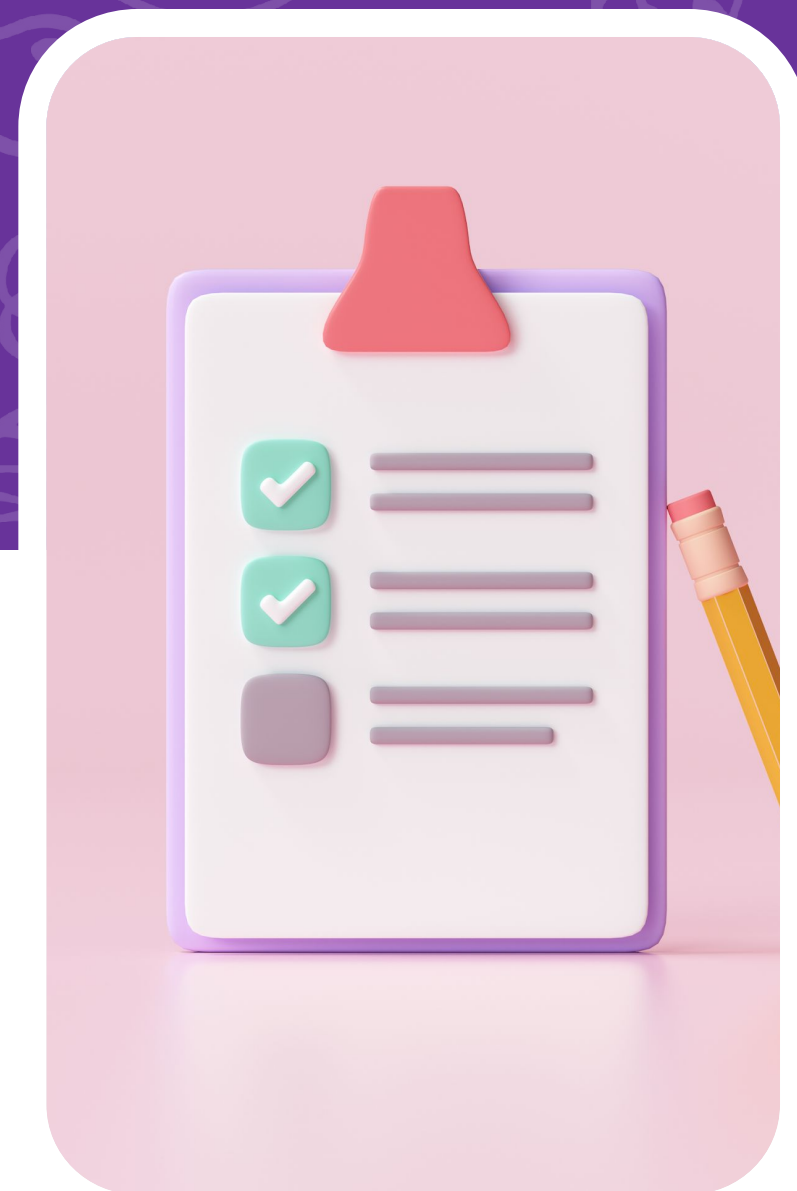
Summer EBT Technology (SET) Grants

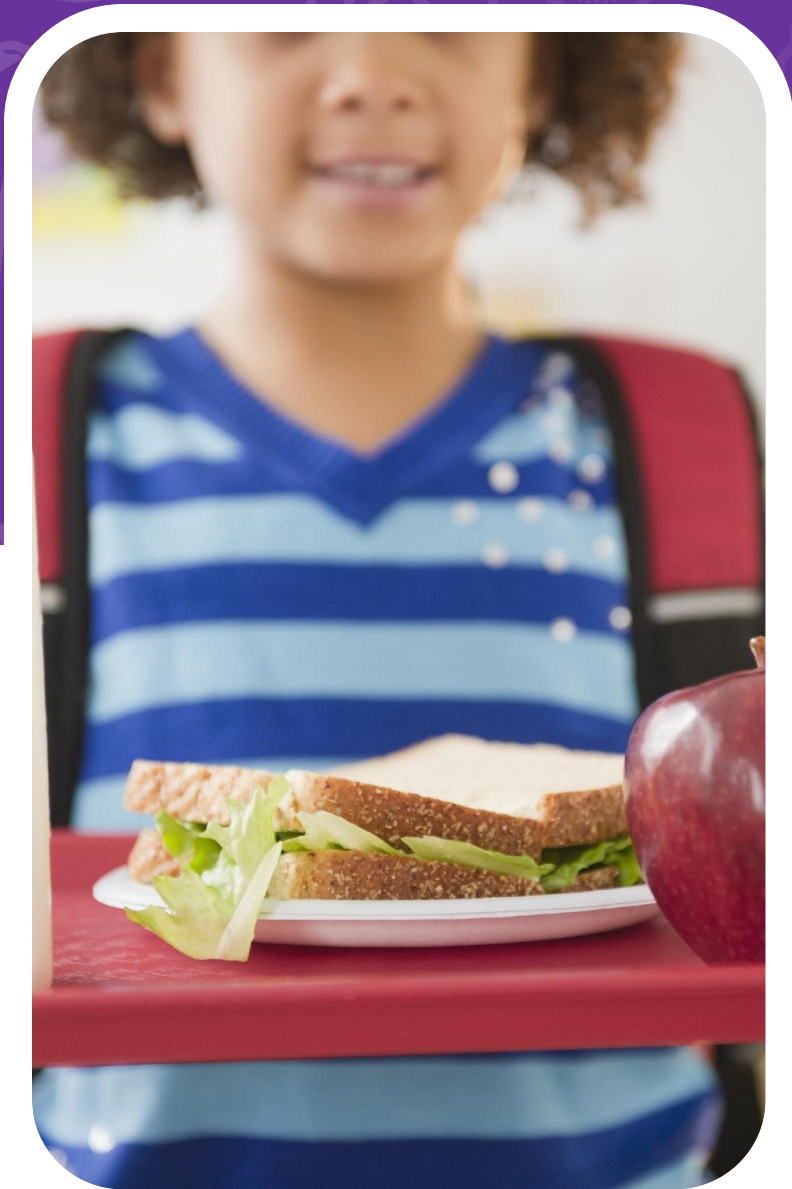
Non-competitive grants in equitable allocations of \$1.1 million are available to all Summer EBT coordinating agencies implementing in Summer 2025.

SET grant projects are typically geared towards:

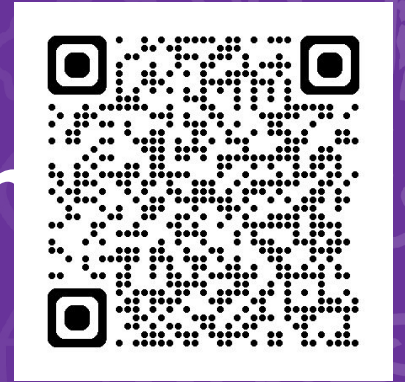
- Database or data file infrastructure,
- Self-service portals and interfaces
- Application solutions.

Final round of applications are due January 15, 2025.





Nutri-Link Application



USDA partnered with Nutri-Link to provide an online household application available for Summer EBT agencies. This application:

- Meets all Summer EBT application requirements.
- Is available at no cost to Summer EBT agencies.
- Includes many customizable features.

We encourage you to consider this option. Visit USDA's Summer EBT/SUN Bucks Online Application page to learn more.

Outreach & Promotional Materials



USDA Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Need a little help feeding your kids when school is out for summer? Learn how the new [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] program can help you!



[Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] is a new grocery benefit to help families buy food for their school-aged children during the summer. Families will get \$120 for each eligible child to buy groceries during the summer [update dollar amount annually]. Children who get [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] can still participate in other summer meal programs. All eligible families can get [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] regardless of immigration status.

Is my child eligible for [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks]?

Your child is eligible, if:

- Your household already participates in [insert customizable list: SNAP, FDIPIR, TANF, etc.], OR
- Your child attends a school that offers the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program, *and* your household income meets the requirements for free or reduced-price school meals.

APPLY ONLINE TODAY!
[INSERT LINK TO APPLY FOR SUMMER EBT/SUN BUCKS]

Receiving [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] Does Not Affect Children or Families' Immigration Status
The U.S. citizenship or immigration status of your household members does not affect your child's eligibility for [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] benefits.

Recently moved? Or do one of these programs have an old address for you?
Update your address [here/by doing x] to ensure your [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] benefits are sent to the correct address!

How does [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] work?

In [State name], [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] will be [insert customized text: e.g., loaded onto an EBT card and mailed to your home; added to an existing household SNAP/WIC EBT card, etc.]. You can use [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] benefits to buy food like fruits, vegetables, meat, whole grains, and dairy at grocery stores, farmers markets, and other places that accept [WIC or SNAP] EBT benefits. [Summer EBT/SUN Bucks] is a convenient way for you to help your children thrive.



¡Más sonrisas para los niños este verano con SUN Programs!



Haga que este verano sea inolvidable con SUN Programs: programas de nutrición de verano del USDA para niños.

Tenemos comidas y nuevos beneficios
USDA Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

¡Estire su presupuesto para alimentos con SUN Bucks!

Nuevo este verano

Este nuevo programa ofrece un beneficio de \$120 a las familias con niños elegibles en edad escolar, para que puedan comprar más alimentos saludables y disfrutar de las comidas juntos durante el verano.



SUN Meals and SUN Meals To-Go Updates and Resources

SUN Meals Update



52 States and Territories implemented SUN Meals To-Go in Summer 2024



Released 5 memos, 1 Administration Guide, and 4 webinars to provide guidance and technical assistance to State agencies and sponsors



Served ~76 million SUN Meals and SUN Meals To-Go in July 2024



SCAN ME

fns.usda.gov/summer/sunmeals

Prospective Waivers for Summer 2025



Extreme Heat and Air Quality Concerns

- Non-congregate meal service
- Parent or guardian meal pickup
- Meal service time flexibility

Offer Versus Serve (OVS)

- Non-SFAs in good standing

Effective May 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025

Optional waiver request form available

Introduction to the Summer Food Service Program Administration Guide

2024

SFSP Administration Guide

Units:

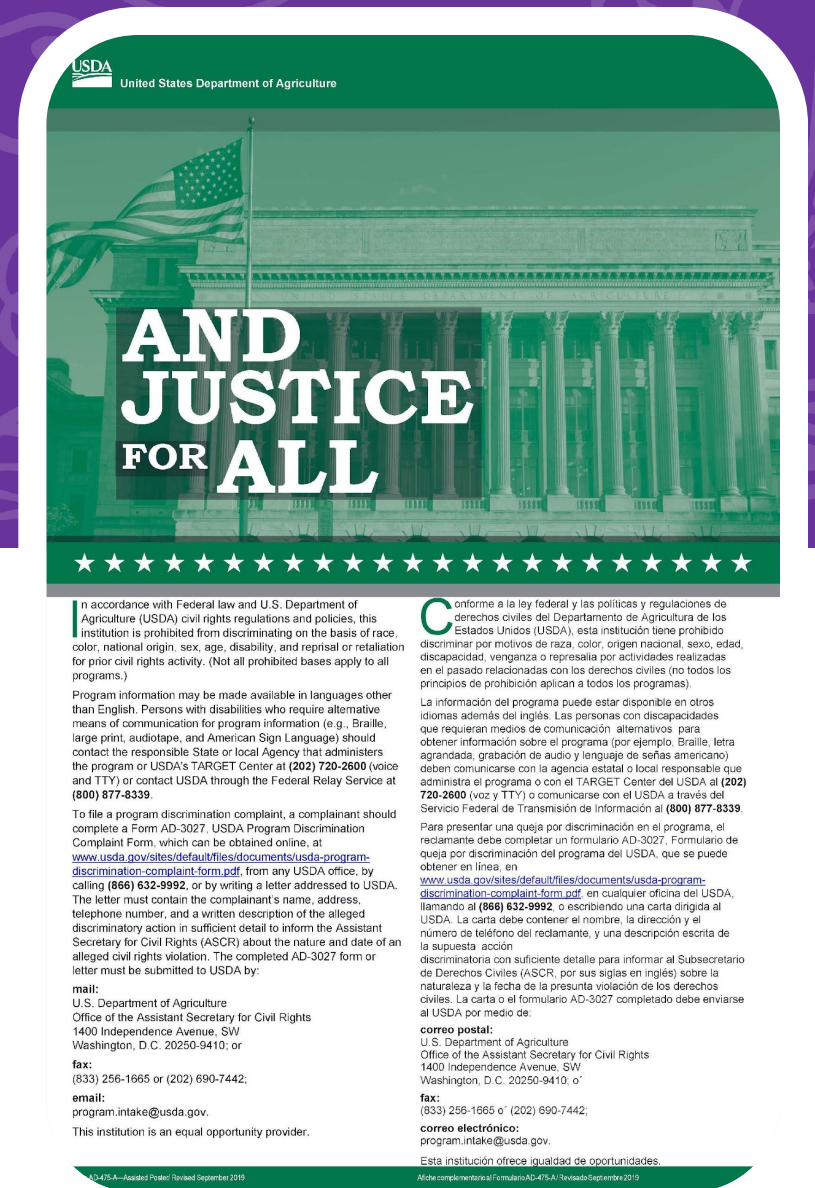
- Participating in the SFSP
- Applying to the SFSP
- Administering the SFSP
- Operating the Meal Service for the SFSP

fns.usda.gov/sfsp/administration-guide



AJFA Signage Requirements for Home Delivery

How can sponsors fulfill the requirement to display “And Justice For All” (AJFA) posters at non-congregate meal sites when delivering meals via home delivery?



AJFA Signage Requirements for Home Delivery

For sponsors experiencing a significant operational challenge with displaying the AJFA signage when offering home delivered meals, they may:

- Include a printed copy of FNS Nondiscrimination Statement (NDS) with **each** meal delivery.
- Display the NDS as part of parental consent form (digital or hard copy) signed with **each** meal delivery

NDS in
English



<https://tinyurl.com/5647y2uv>

NDS in Other Languages



<https://tinyurl.com/y5wwpmk3>



Strategies to Promote High Quality Summer Meals

State agencies could encourage sponsors to adopt strategies related to:

- Meal Frequency and Delivery
- Meal Size and Nutritional Content
- Participant Access and Convenience
- Food Safety and Storage
- Menu Communication and Family Support



<https://tinyurl.com/4pbm6zn9>

More Summer Smiles Promotional Toolkit

- Newsletter Articles
- Web Images
- Social Media Content
- Virtual Meeting Backgrounds
- Videos
- Brand Materials
- Print materials



fns.usda.gov/summer/promotion

n





Questions