PROGRAM BASICS AND EARLY PLANNING FOR SUMMER 2019

2019 ‘School’s Out, Food’s In’ Webinar Series
Thursday, January 24 (2:00-3:00pm Eastern)

#nokidhungry
‘School’s Out, Food’s In’ Webinar Series Calendar

Webinar recordings and slide decks for all webinars will be available here.

February 14: Forging Successful Partnerships to Strengthen Summer Meals Programming
March 28: Innovation to Expand Access to Summer Meals in Hard-to-Reach Communities
April 11: Core Summer Meals Strategies to Overcome Transportation Barriers
May 23: Get the Word Out! Ideas and Resources to Promote Your Program and Measure Progress
June 13: Engage Community Leaders to Strengthen Your Program
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

bestpractices.nokidhungry.org
Webinar Agenda

Summer Meals: Program Basics
Key Planning Resources for Summer 2019
Discussion: Early Planning for a Successful Summer
Audience Q&A
Wrap-up and Next Steps
Welcome to Our Featured Panelist:

Marla Caplon, Director of Student Wellness Initiatives, Montgomery County Public Schools (Maryland)
MODERATED PANELIST Q&A

Question or comment? Let us know!
THE NEED FOR SUMMER MEALS

Nationwide, summer meals are only meeting 12 percent of the need faced by hungry kids during the summer months.
THE NEED FOR SUMMER MEALS

Impact on Health

- **Weight Gain**
  Children may gain weight two to three times faster during the summer than during the school year.

- **Chronic Diseases**
  When a child gains weight, he/she is more susceptible to chronic diseases such as iron deficiency anemia, asthma, type 2 diabetes, and heart disease.

- **Mental Health**
  Children experiencing food insecurity report higher rates of mental illness.

Impact on Learning

- **Cognitive Functioning and Development**
  Nutritious meals protect against cognitive decline.

- **Summer Learning Loss**
  Children from low-income families lose more than two months in reading achievement compared with their peers from higher-income families.

- **Achievement Gap**
  About two-thirds of the ninth grade achievement gap between lower- and higher-income youth can be explained by unequal access to summer learning opportunities during the elementary school years.

Impact on Family

- **Focus on Family**
  1 of 3 (32%) low-income households report not having enough food during summer.

- **Tradeoff Examples**
  Increased spending on food over the summer can lead to tradeoff decisions for households at risk of food insecurity served by Feeding America.

Source: *Summer Nutrition Program Social Impact Analysis*
HOW SUMMER MEALS WORK

Congress
Legislates the program and the funding

USDA
Oversees national implementation, sets rules and regulations, disburses funds

State Agencies
Oversee implementation in the state, approve actors, monitor program, disburse funds

Sponsors
Direct meal programs, accountable for providing meals and contracts

Sites
Points of service – where meals meet kids; target communities of need

Vendors
Contract with sponsors, provides meals for sites

Authorizing legislation:
Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act
SUMMER MEALS: PROGRAM BASICS

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federally-funded, state-administered, and locally-sponsored program of the USDA that allows children to access nutritious meals free of charge when school is out. Schools also have the option of serving summer meals through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Seamless Summer Option (SSO).

Key program details (SFSP+SSO):
- Serves children 18 and under
- Congregate meal requirement
- Eligibility criteria: school or census tract data
- Up to two meals/day (for most sites)
KEY PROGRAM SIMILARITIES: SFSP V. SSO

**Common site types**: Open, closed enrolled, camps
- **Open**: All children 18 and under may participate on a drop-in basis: no need to sign up or register
- **Closed enrolled**: Serves an identified group of primarily low-income children (50% or more) who are enrolled in advance; reimbursement provided for all meals served
- **Camps**: Serve specific children within an identified group who are enrolled in advance; reimbursement provided only for meals served to participants meeting income guidelines

**Participant eligibility**: determined at either the community or individual level, dependent upon site type
- **Open**: determined at the community level using school or census block group data (next slide)
- **Closed enrolled**: determined at the individual level using school meals data and/or income eligibility applications. *Contact your state agency for additional guidance.*
- **Camps**: determined at the individual level using income eligibility applications
KEY PROGRAM SIMILARITIES: SFSP V. SSO

**Area eligibility**: used to determine community (categorical) eligibility for at open sites

- **School meals data**: At least 50 percent of enrolled children are deemed eligible for free or reduced price school meals under the NSLP or School Breakfast Program (SBP)
  - Any summer meal site location within the school attendance area of an ‘area eligible’ school may operate as an open site.
- **Census data**: The most recent census data available indicates that at least 50 percent of children residing in a given Census Block Group or Census Tract are eligible for free or reduced price school meals
  - Any summer meal site location within a Census Block Group or Census Tract deemed ‘area eligible’ may operate as an open site. Learn more.

**Pro tips:**

1. Once established, area eligibility for sites remains valid for five years.
2. In some cases, USDA allows averaged eligibility to qualify sites adjacent to low-income areas. Learn more.
3. If you are aware of ‘pockets of poverty’ in otherwise ineligible communities (i.e. HUD sites), contact your state agency for additional support. There may be other opportunities to establish area eligibility for these sites.
KEY PROGRAM DIFFERENCES: SFSP V. SSO

**Seamless Summer Option (SSO)**
- Sponsorship available only to School Food Authorities (SFAs)
- Extension of existing NSLP sponsor agreement
- NSLP/SBP rules apply for meal service
- Meals served are reimbursed at the NSLP/SBP ‘free rates’

**Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)**
- Sponsorship available to School Food Authorities (SFAs), government entities, and nonprofit organizations
- Program sponsors enter into a signed agreement with the administering state agency to operate the SFSP
- Simplified meal pattern
- Highest per-meal reimbursement of any Child Nutrition Program
SFSP: MEAL PATTERN AND REIMBURSEMENT

**Meal pattern:** Simplified meal pattern with four meal components: (1) milk, (2) fruit and/or vegetable, (3) grain, and (4) meat/meat alternate.

- **Breakfast:** grain, fruit/vegetable, milk (required); meat/meat alternate (optional)
- **Lunch/Supper:** grain, fruit/vegetable (two servings), milk, meat/meat alternate (required)
- **Snack:** two of four meal components must be served

**Meal reimbursement:** Up to two daily meals may be reimbursed at most sites; all meals must satisfy the *congregate meal requirement*

- **Open and closed enrolled sites:** may serve up to two meals per day
- **Camps:** may serve up to three meals per day (*contact your state agency for more information*)
- **Congregate meal requirement:** meals must be consumed onsite in a supervised setting
### SFSP: 2018 REIMBURSEMENT RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per meal rates</th>
<th>Lower 48 States</th>
<th>Alaska</th>
<th>Hawai‘i</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rural or self-prep</td>
<td>All other sites</td>
<td>Rural or self-prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>$2.23</td>
<td>$2.19</td>
<td>$3.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch/Supper</td>
<td>$3.92</td>
<td>$3.86</td>
<td>$6.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>$0.93</td>
<td>$0.91</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Reimbursement is for meals served, not meals prepared.
SFSP: LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM

**USDA Program Guidance & Resources:**
- Summer meals fact sheet ([English/Spanish](#))
- Administrative Guide
- Summer Nutrition Guide
- Sponsor monitor's guide
- Site supervisor's guide ([English/Spanish](#))
- Summer meals toolkit

Identify your administering state agency.

Visit the No Kid Hungry [Center for Best Practices website](#).
SUMMER MEALS: PLANNING AHEAD FOR 2019

August/September 2018
• Assess strengths/areas requiring attention
• Review site feedback

Fall 2018
• Review previous summer participation
• Review summer financial information
• Review participation information vs. eligible areas not served
• Identify preliminary goals for summer 2019

Winter 2019
• Contact 2018 sites for continued participation
• Contact all eligible locations
• Create workgroup to increase participation

Spring 2019
• Submit SFSP application
• Finalize initial site list
• Confirm meal distribution plan/model
• Plan summer menus
• Purchase menu items
• Finalize site start/end date
• Develop training schedule
SUMMER PLANNING 2019

Key Success Factors:

- Returning Sponsors: Identify Key Learnings from 2018
- Establish Target Areas for Program Expansion
- Determine What Success Looks Like
- Engage in Effective Community Partnership
SUMMER MEALS: MOVE FROM 101 TO 201

- Summer Action Plan
- Summer Operational Plan
- No Kid Hungry Summer Meals Calculator
Still have questions? Write us at bestpractices@strength.org.

Join us for next month’s webinar!

*Forging Successful Partnerships to Strengthen Summer Meals*
Thursday, February 14 @ 2pm Eastern