

The Simplified Summer Food Program

Feeding children during the summer just got easier!

CONGRESS MADE ALL
STATES PART OF THE
SIMPLIFIED SUMMER FOOD
PROGRAM!

Simplified Summer Food

- Began in 2001 as a pilot in 13 states.
- The goal was to increase participation in Summer Food by easing administrative requirements for sponsors.
- Participation in the original 13 states has grown by over 50%, but dropped by nearly 17% in states not included in Simplified.
- Congress gradually added more states.

Simplified Summer Food

- Eliminates Summer Food's complicated accounting requirements.
- Reduces paperwork.
- Guarantees ALL sponsors the highest reimbursement rate.

Summer Food

The old Summer Food was difficult to run:

- Sponsors received two reimbursements—one for administrative costs and one for operating costs.
- Sponsors had to do a lot of administrative work just to receive the full operating and administrative reimbursements.
- This complicated system kept some sponsors from receiving the full reimbursement.

**THE COMPLICATED
ACCOUNTING RULES FOR
SUMMER FOOD ARE GONE!**

WE NOW HAVE SIMPLIFIED!

Simplified Summer Food

- One reimbursement rate for operating and administrative costs.
- Just multiple the number of meals times the federal reimbursement rate.
- Self-prep and rural sites still receive a slightly higher reimbursement rate.

Simplified Reimbursement Rates 2009

	Rural/Self Prep	Urban/Vended
Breakfast	\$1.81	\$1.78
Lunch and Supper	\$3.182	\$3.13
Snack	\$0.752	\$0.73

(All States Except Alaska and Hawaii)

Who Can Sponsor Simplified Summer Food?

- Public and private nonprofit schools
- Local government agencies, like a parks and recreation department, a health department, or a public housing department
- Private nonprofit organizations, such as a YMCA, a food bank, a church, or a Police Athletic League

Sponsors Provide Meals at “Sites”

Potential sites include:

- Schools
- Summer Programs
- Parks
- Swimming Pools
- Housing Complexes
- Churches
- And other places where children congregate

To Qualify, Sites Must

- Be located in a low-income area (at least 50% of the children in the area qualify for free or reduced-price school meals);
- Serve primarily low-income children (at least 50% of the children enrolled in the program qualify for free or reduced-price school meals); or
- Serve primarily migrant children.
- Camps can participate, but are only reimbursed for the meals served to children eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

Number of Meals

- Sites in low-income areas or serving primarily low-income children can provide up to two meals (or a meal and a snack) a day.
- Sites serving primarily migrant children and Camps can provide up to three meals a day.

Who Benefits from Simplified?

- Sponsors benefit from the reduced administrative work and the meals times rate reimbursement.
- Sites benefit because many sponsors are willing to serve more sites and have additional funding to improve meal quality.
- Children benefit because free meals are more available in their community.

Next Steps

- To participate in Simplified Summer Food, contact your state child nutrition agency.
- For a list of state agencies and additional resources, visit www.frac.org/afterschool.