

## Memorandum from Minnesota Department of Education      February 18, 2022

Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) is aware there are a number of sites who were previously sponsored by Feeding Our Future (FOF) that are seeking options to continue participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). MDE wants to ensure these sites receive the support and assistance they need to continue to successfully administer the USDA's federal nutrition programs. If you wish to continue participation in CACFP you have two options, they are listed below.

1. Sites may continue to participate in CACFP by enrolling with an existing long-term sponsor that is in good standing with MDE, and able to take on additional sites. Refer to the section below titled, to continue participation in CACFP with a different sponsoring organization.
2. The other option is to participate in CACFP by enrolling as an Independent Center, or Sponsoring organization directly with MDE. Refer to the section below, to participate in CACFP directly with MDE.

Whether you reach out to a new sponsor to continue participation in CACFP as a sponsored site or enroll with MDE to self-sponsor, your site and program operations will be re-evaluated to ensure the eligibility qualifications are met and the site is operating in compliance with Program regulations and guidance. If the eligibility requirements are not met or if the site is not operating consistent with Program regulations and guidance, your site may not be allowed to continue participation.

### To Participate in CACFP directly with MDE

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) start by viewing the web-based training titled [At-Risk Afterschool Meal Program: Overview and Eligibility](#). Then review the [applications webpage](#) before selecting the Enrollment Toolkit in the middle of that page. Follow the instructions for each of the four steps in the enrollment process.

Continue to learn about CACFP by viewing training resources on MDE's [Training: At-Risk Afterschool Meals](#) and participating in training opportunities like the upcoming Essentials for Child and Adult Food Program Series. The description and registration links are on the Training webpage under Training Opportunities.

### To continue participation in CACFP with a different Sponsoring Organization

MDE wants to ensure you receive the support and assistance you need to continue to successfully administer the USDA's federal nutrition programs. Therefore, MDE will be requiring that sites previously sponsored by FOF are sponsored by established, well-seasoned sponsors in

good standing. This includes multi-site sponsors of legally distinct sites that were in operation prior to January 2020.

Contact information is listed below for those sponsoring organizations. Sites may only participate under one sponsor or risk being disqualified from the Program; and must remain under the selected sponsorship until the end of program year, September 30, 2022.

Transferring to a different sponsoring organization may occur only during the application renewal period each year. MDE welcomes all CACFP participating sites to connect with us by [subscribing to the Nutrition Program Bulletin](#).

Before contacting a new sponsor for CACFP participation as an at-risk afterschool program expect to have the following information ready for that sponsor, [at-risk afterschool program eligibility requirements](#):

- Name of institution and address of the location where the afterschool care program operates.
  - Documentation of zoning and the building fire/safety requirements.
  - Description of the regularly scheduled enrichment activities available to children in care.
  - Age/grade ranges of children in the afterschool care program.
  - Operating days of the week.
- ✓ **St. Paul Public Schools Nutrition Services** – provides a meal and snack for afterschool programs, not cash reimbursement. To apply to participate in CACFP sponsored by St. Paul Schools Nutrition Services please complete the [SPPS Afterschool and Non-School Day Meal Program Agreement form found here](#). Once completed a Nutrition Services staff person will contact you.
- ✓ **Youthprise** – provides a meal and snack for afterschool programs, not cash reimbursement. **Contact Christa DeBoer** by email: [christa@youthprise.org](mailto:christa@youthprise.org) or phone: 612-564-4858 ext. 89
- ✓ **Minneapolis Public Schools Culinary & Wellness Services** - provides a meal and snack for afterschool programs, not cash reimbursement. If you are interested in becoming an afterschool CACFP sites with Minneapolis Culinary & Wellness, [please complete the application](#). If you have questions please contact Sara Eugene, [sara.eugene@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:sara.eugene@mpls.k12.mn.us) , 612-668-2822
- ✓ **MAK Community Enrichment Services** – provides a meal and snack for afterschool programs, not cash reimbursement. Contact MAK by email at: [makcommunitycenter@gmail.com](mailto:makcommunitycenter@gmail.com) or call: 952-314-7555 Refer to **Mohamed Abdirahman, or Ahmed Adam**.
- ✓ **The YES Network** – provides a meal and snack for afterschool programs, not cash reimbursement. Is limited to sponsoring sites in the St. Cloud region of the state. Contact **Ruth Wiechman** at [ruth.yes.network@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.yes.network@gmail.com) or call 320-266-1747.