



## USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Child Nutrition Program Comparison

USDA Child Nutrition Programs help to ensure that children and older adults have access to nutritious meals and snacks while attending school, summer programs, child care centers and homes, afterschool care programs, adult day care centers, and emergency shelters. This comparison chart provides basic eligibility and operational information about the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), and School Nutrition Programs (SNP).

Definitions:

- **Sponsor:** Organization that signs a formal agreement with Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and takes responsibility for overseeing the federal Child Nutrition Program(s) at the sites they sponsor. Sponsors receive reimbursement to assist with the administrative and food service costs incurred for providing program meals to eligible participants at their program site(s). Organizations must be legally incorporated to do business in Minnesota.
- **Site:** Physical location where meal/snack service(s) take place. Each child nutrition program also has site eligibility requirements which must be met in order for the site to participate in the program.

Requirement Category	Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)		Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)	School Nutrition Programs (SNP)
	Regular CACFP	At-Risk Afterschool Meal Program (At-Risk CACFP)		<i>National School Lunch (NSLP) and School Breakfast Programs (SBP)</i>
<b>Description</b>	Provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks served to eligible children and adults who are enrolled for care at participating child care	Provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks served to eligible children participating in area eligible	Provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks served to eligible children at eligible sites during summer break from school.	Provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks served to eligible students in pre-k-12 schools and residential child care institutions.

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	centers, day care homes, and adult day care centers.	afterschool care programs during the school year.		
<b>Sponsor Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools (public and private non-profit)</li> <li>• Government agencies</li> <li>• Private non-profit organizations</li> <li>• Eligible for-profit child care centers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools (public and private non-profit)</li> <li>• Government agencies</li> <li>• Private non-profit organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools (public and private non-profit)</li> <li>• Government agencies</li> <li>• Private non-profit organizations</li> </ul> <p>Sponsor organizations must provide year-round service to the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools (public and private non-profit)</li> <li>• Residential Child Care Institutions</li> <li>• Schools must be registered with the state of Minnesota</li> <li>• 100% online schools are not eligible for NSLP/SBP.</li> </ul>
<b>Site Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child care centers (public, private non-profit, and eligible for-profit), including Head Start, early childhood development, and preschool programs</li> <li>• Adult day care centers (public, private non-profit, and eligible for-profit)</li> </ul>	<p>Area eligible afterschool care centers offering non-residential child care after school through an approved afterschool care program that provides regularly scheduled enrichment or educational activities to children.</p> <p>Area eligible: Within the attendance area of a public</p>	<p>Locations that serve meals and/or snacks in a supervised setting to children in low-income areas or those that serve specific groups of low-income children.</p> <p>Site eligibility varies by site type (open, closed enrolled, or camp) and is defined and documented by data from</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools (public and private non-profit)</li> <li>• Residential child care institutions</li> </ul> <p>The State of Minnesota requires that all site kitchens be licensed to serve food and have a Certified Food</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency shelters serving children</li> <li>Outside school hours care centers</li> </ul> <p>Eligible for-profit centers serve at least 25% low-income participants.</p> <p>Sites are required to be licensed or approved by federal, state, or local authorities to provide nonresidential care services.</p>	<p>school where at least 50% of the students are eligible for free or reduced price meals.</p> <p>Sites that are not area eligible may participate in regular CACFP as outside school hours care centers.</p> <p>Sites that are license exempt according to Minnesota Department of Human Resources (DHS) must still meet state or local health and safety standards.</p>	<p>schools, census, welfare or education agencies, zoning commissions, income eligibility forms provided by enrolled households, or other appropriate sources.</p>	<p>Protection Manager (CFPM) on-site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USDA federal regulations require elementary and secondary school food service establishments to be inspected two times per year for food safety requirements in order to continue providing meals to students.</li> </ul>
<b>Operational Timeframes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year-round</li> <li>During licensed care days and hours for sites where licensing is required.</li> </ul>	<p>After the regular school day ends, during school breaks, holidays and weekends during the regular school year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During summer break from school.</li> <li>During vacation breaks in schools operated on a year-round schedule.</li> <li>During emergency school closures during the scheduled school year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During instructional days throughout the regularly scheduled school year.</li> <li>During the summer months, schools may operate SBP/NSLP for students attending academic summer school. Schools that do not qualify for SFSP, do not want to participate in SFSP, or do</li> </ul>

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				not want to operate as an open SFSP site may offer meals to summer school students using this option.
<b>Program Eligibility</b>	Licensed non-residential care programs only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Afterschool care programs providing educational or enrichment activities that are open to all children in an organized, structured and supervised environment.</li> <li>• Competitive sports teams do not qualify as eligible programs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities are recommended but not required.</li> <li>• Camps can be residential or nonresidential day camps that offer regularly scheduled food service as part of an organized program for enrolled children.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning institutions (public and nonprofit private schools), and other designated institutions (childcare, juvenile detention centers, board and lodging institutions) can apply to become School Food Authorities.</li> <li>• Once approved as a School Food Authority (SFA), learning institutions may offer school breakfast and school lunch to all on-site enrolled students who are age 18 years of age or younger and students who turn 19 years of age during their senior year.</li> </ul>

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Food Authorities (SFAs) who participate in the National School Lunch Program are allowed to offer an Afterschool Snack Program within their afterschool care program.</li> </ul> <p>The afterschool care program must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide care for children after school;</li> <li>• Have organized, regularly scheduled activities in a structured and supervised environment; and</li> <li>• Include education or enrichment activities, distinct from any extracurricular programs organized primarily for scholastic, cultural or athletic purposes.</li> <li>• Organized interscholastic programs or community-</li> </ul>

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				level competitive sports are not eligible to participate.
<b>Participant Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children age 12 and under or children of migrant workers age 15 and under enrolled in a licensed child care center or outside school hours care center.</li> <li>• Children age 18 and under residing in an emergency shelters.</li> <li>• Persons of any age with disabilities enrolled in a care facility serving a majority of persons who are age 18 and under.</li> <li>• Adults enrolled in a licensed adult care center who are age 60 and older or are functionally impaired.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children age 18 and under at the start of the school year who participate in an approved afterschool program or meet the definition of persons with disabilities.</li> </ul> <p>Persons with disabilities means persons of any age who have one or more disabilities, as determined by the State, and who are enrolled in an institution or child care facility serving a majority of persons who are age 18 and under.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children age 18 and under.</li> <li>• Individuals 19 years of age and over who have a mental or physical disability and who participate during the school year in a public or private non-profit school program.</li> <li>• Camp sites are only reimbursed for meals/snacks served to enrolled children who meet the free or reduced-price eligibility standards.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students of high school grade or under who are enrolled in an educational unit of high</li> <li>• Students who are older than 18 are eligible for school meals if they are enrolled in a GED or high school completion program. Refer to the Eligibility of Participants in Adult Basic Education and Other Programs to Receive School Meal Benefits available on our Student Meal Applications webpage: <a href="https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/FNS/SNP/proc/App/">https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/FNS/SNP/proc/App/</a></li> </ul>

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<b>Meal/Snack Limits</b>  <i>Meals:</i> Breakfast, Lunch, and Supper  <i>Snacks:</i> Morning Snack, Afternoon Snack, Evening Snack	Up to two meals and one snack per participant per day.  Emergency shelters may claim reimbursement for up to three meals per participant day.	Up to one meal and one snack per participant per day.	Up to two meals or one meal and one snack per participant per day.  Up to three meals for migrant sites and camps.	NSLP: One lunch per student per day  SBP: One breakfast per student per day  Afterschool Snack: One snack per student per day
<b>Operational Requirements</b>	Meals and snacks are served in a supervised, congregate setting.			
	Centers participating in CACFP may charge a single fee (nonpricing program) to cover tuition, meals, and all other day care services, or they may charge separate fees for meals (pricing program).	Meals are served at no charge to participants.	Meals are served at no charge to participants, except camps may choose to be pricing or nonpricing programs.	Meals are served at no charge to participants who qualify for free meals. In addition, the State of Minnesota allocates funding annually to provide free breakfast and lunch to participants who qualify for reduced-price meals and free breakfasts to all Kindergarten students regardless of their household eligibility.

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<b>Meal Service</b>	<p>Meals and snacks are prepared on-site (self-prep) or procured from a vended meal provider that meets state and local health regulations. If vended, the sponsor is still responsible for the food program operations at each site. Sponsors, not sites, procure and enter into vended meal contracts. The only exception to this is for CACFP sponsors that provide funds rather than food to their sites.</p> <p>Meal and snack counts must be recorded at the point-of-service when the meal/snack is provided to the child/student.</p>			
	Meals/snacks are served pre-plated or family style.	Meals/snacks are served pre-plated or family style.	<p>Meals/snacks are served pre-plated.</p> <p>Family style is only allowed at closed enrolled, camp, and school seamless summer sites.</p>	Meals/snacks are served cafeteria style. Pre-plated or pre-bagged sack lunches that include all required meal components may be offered for students at sites that do not participate in Offer vs. Serve and/or for students attending school-sponsored field trips that will be away from the school site during regularly-scheduled meal services. Meals/snacks must be counted by student at the point of service.
<b>Reimbursement</b> (updated annually)	July 2021 – June 2022 Rates: Category A (Free): Breakfast - \$1.97	July 2021 – June 2022 Rates: Breakfast - \$1.97 Lunch & Supper - \$3.92	Jan. – Dec. 2022 Rates: *Self-prep and rural sites: Breakfast - \$2.6050	July 2021 – June 2022 Rates: Free: Breakfast - \$1.97



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	Lunch & Supper - \$3.92 Snack - \$1.00 Category B (Reduced): Breakfast - \$1.67 Lunch & Supper - \$3.52 Snack - \$0.50 Category C (Paid): Breakfast - \$0.33 Lunch & Supper - \$0.61 Snack - \$0.09	Snack - \$1.00	Lunch & Supper - \$4.5625 Snack - \$1.0775  Vended and urban sites: Breakfast - \$2.5550 Lunch & Supper - \$4.4875 Snack - \$1.0525  <b>*Self-prep means the sponsor prepares the meals</b> that will be served at the site(s) and does not contract with a food service management company, caterer or school for the preparation of meals, which are considered "vended." Self-preparation includes sponsors that prepare meals in a central facility and deliver meals to their sites.	Lunch & Supper - \$3.85 Snack - \$1.00 Reduced: Breakfast - \$1.97 Lunch & Supper - \$3.85 Snack - \$0.50 Paid: Breakfast - \$0.88 (Kindergarten - \$1.63) Lunch & Supper - \$0.54 Snack - \$0.09

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<b>Sponsors of Multiple Sites or Legally Separate Sites</b>	For-profit organizations may only sponsor eligible sites that are of the same legal entity as the sponsoring organization.	Only non-profit organizations may sponsor At-Risk only sites.	Only public and private non-profit organizations and government agencies can sponsor SFSP sites.	Learning institutions (public and nonprofit private schools), and other designated institutions (childcare, juvenile detention centers, board and lodging institutions) who are approved to be School Food Authorities (SFAs) may apply to sponsor multiple sites at which to offer the NSLP/SBP and Afterschool Snack Program under their local jurisdiction.