New USDA Guidance

CACFP 03-2020: Meal Service During Unanticipated School Closures

The USDA released a memorandum to provide updated guidance on the child nutrition program flexibilities available during unanticipated school closures. USDA determined that a previous memorandum, which allowed meals to be served at school sites without requiring submission of individual waivers for USDA approval, is not fully consistent with Section 12(l) waiver requirements of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (“NSLA”), 42 U.S.C. 1760(1). Unanticipated school closures prevent children from receiving educational instruction and the nutritious meals they would normally receive. The Food and Nutrition Service (“FNS”) encourages institutions participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (“CACFP”), and sponsors participating in the Summer Food Service Program (“SFSP”) to use the flexibilities described in this memorandum to help ensure that children do not experience a lapse in food security when extreme weather or other events force area schools and child care facilities to close. KSDE will request a state-wide waiver from USDA to reinstate this flexibility for SFSP sponsors in Kansas.

Updated Building for the Future Poster and Pamphlet

An updated Building for the Future Poster and Pamphlet are now available in both English and Spanish. The updated poster and pamphlet are available on the USDA FNS Website. Sponsors and providers can still use the old posters and letters but are encouraged to use the new resources. It is a requirement of the CACFP that sponsors provide notice to parents/guardians that the facility is participating in the CACFP. Sponsors must either post the notification in each facility by using the Building for the Futures Poster or give each parent/guardian the notification upon initial enrollment by using the Building for the Future Pamphlet. If an organization wishes to use another method of parental notification, the form must be approved by KSDE.

New “And Justice for All” Posters

KSDE is still waiting for new “And Justice for All” posters to be shipped from USDA. There is no estimated delivery time frame. You will be notified in the Monthly Update when they are available.

Request to Use Electronic Transactions in the Child Nutrition Program

On an annual basis, sponsors wishing to use an online system to capture enrollment or income eligibility or are capturing electronic signatures to meet other CACFP requirements must complete a Request to Use Electronic Transactions in the Child Nutrition Program. The Request to Use Electronic Transitions in the Child Nutrition Program should be completed by the Sponsors Authorized Representative, Executive Director (if applicable) and Board Chairperson or Owner. Sponsors should also consider obtaining technology and legal counsel when completing the request. Requests should be submitted and reviewed by KSDE prior to accepting electronic signatures. The Request to Use Electronic Transactions in Child Nutrition Programs can be found in the CACFP Administrative Handbook.
Important Claims Reminder
All claims for reimbursement must be certified. On the claims tab in KN-Claim after you have entered a claim(s) and uploaded a for-profit roster, if applicable, click on the pencil icon on the Sponsor Claim line. Scroll down to the bottom and check the box that says “I certify...“. Then click Save and Exit.

Kansas Professional Development Opportunities

Online Professional Development Classes and Tutorials
Over 30 classes and tutorials, including the 3-hour Food Safety Basics class, can be accessed free of charge 24/7 via the KSDE Training Portal. Create an account at https://learning.ksde.org. For detailed instructions on creating an account and accessing the training, go to www.kn-eat.org, CACFP, Training.

Face-to-Face Professional Development
A wide range of face-to-face, high quality, professional development opportunities are available for Child Nutrition Program personnel. Contact Cindy Johnson at cljohnson@ksde.org or call 785-296-2276 to request face-to-face professional development.

Jump Start for Centers
Jump Start for Centers is required for all new authorized representatives of centers and recommended for new support staff who provide assistance to the authorized representative. The classes are repeated through the year. The schedule and registration information are available at www.kn-eat.org, CACFP, Training. The next class will be December 18 in Topeka. This free training class includes sessions on CACFP Administrative Integrity and Meals Done Right.

Food Safety Basics Professional Development
A schedule with Food Safety Basics classes for February, March, and April at locations across Kansas will be made available in January.

Tasty Takes on Children’s Favorite
A culinary class for CACFP Sponsors will be available in Spring 2020. Tasty Takes on Children's Favorites demonstrates how to prepare children's favorite foods from scratch using healthy culinary techniques. This chef taught class consists of lecture, demonstration and participation in food preparation. Watch for more details in future Monthly Updates.

Feeding Infants in the CACFP
The Feeding Infants in the CACFP class will be offered in five regional locations during Spring 2020. Watch for scheduling details in a future Monthly Update.

Now Available: Product Formulation Statement Templates for Child Nutrition Programs
Updated Product Formulation Statement templates are now available to assist food manufacturers in documenting how their food products contribute to Child Nutrition Programs’ (CNP) meal pattern requirements. These updated templates are program specific to better meet the needs of CNP stakeholders, to include the food industry, Program operators, and State agencies. These templates can be accessed from the CN Labeling Program, Food Manufacturers/Industry webpage: https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/labeling/food-manufacturersindustry.
Food Safety Tip of the Month
Did you know…it is unsafe to rinse meat or poultry under water in the kitchen? Rinsing meat and poultry can scatter and spread germs. For more food safety information and for recipes with food safety tips, check out the Partnership for Food Safety Education The Story of Your Dinner resources at http://www.fightbac.org/food-safety-education/the-story-of-your-dinner/.

CACFP Trainer’s Tools: Feeding Infants – Now Available!
The USDA’s Team Nutrition initiative is pleased to announce the release of CACFP Trainer’s Tools: Feeding Infants. State agencies, sponsoring organizations, and others can use these materials to enhance their next training for Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) operators on the infant meal pattern. This training brings hot topics to life from one of Team Nutrition’s most popular resources, the Feeding Infants in the CACFP guide. Materials include:
- A trainer’s guide;
- Presentation slides and trainer notes;
- Videos; and
- Digital interactive games.

Materials are now available online at: https://www.fns.usda.gov/resource/cacfp-trainers-tools-feeding-infants. Team Nutrition is also working to make these resources available as a printed kit that includes all of the videos, PowerPoint slides, and digital interactives on a USB flash drive. In addition, a Spanish version of this kit will be available at a later date. To learn more about these exciting new training tools, please join Team Nutrition’s next CACFP Trainers’ Circle webinar on Thursday, December 12, 2019. This webinar is free and will be held from 1:30-2:30 pm. Register for this webinar at: https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/trainers-circle-cacfp-webinars.

Feeding Infants in the Child and Adult Care Food Program: “Alimentación de Bebés en el Programa de Alimentos para el Cuidado de Niños y Adultos”
The USDA’s Team Nutrition initiative is excited to announce the release of the Spanish-language version of Feeding Infants in the Child and Adult Care Food Program guide. Now available in both English and Spanish, this resource helps Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) operators implement the CACFP infant meal pattern requirements and best practices by providing information on:
- CACFP infant meal pattern
- Developmental readiness for solid foods
- Hunger and fullness signs
- Handling and storing breastmilk and infant formula
- Creditable foods, and more!

Farm to Plate: Mountain Plains Crunch Off Results
Thank you to all sponsors who participated in the Mountain Plains Crunch Off! Kansas had over 300 organizations, schools, day cares and individuals registered totaling over 22,000 participants crunching into an apple during October. Congratulations to P0132, Day Care Connections, and USD 231, Gardner Edgerton for most ‘crunchers’ registered in the CACFP and SNP categories respectively! These sponsors each received a trophy for their amazing efforts. It was wonderful to see so many pictures of events shared on social media, newsletters and newspapers! In the nine-state Mountain Plains Crunch Off, Kansas had tough competition. The winning State was Nebraska with 4.58 % of its’ capita participating.
CACFP Week is brought to you by the letters...C-A-C-F-P!
CACFP Week is right around the corner, March 15-21, 2020. The National CACFP Sponsors Association has a number of free resources to help with planning at https://www.cacfp.org/news-events-conferences/national-cacfp-week/.

Healthier CACFP Award
Are you looking for a way to promote your child care program and stand out from all others? The Healthier Child and Adult Care Food Program Award is a USDA recognition system which supports child care centers and daycare home providers taking steps to improve the nutrition, physical activity, nutrition education and/or environment for children in their care. Apply today to win an award! Those who qualify will receive statewide recognition as a Healthier CACFP Award Winner and a certificate to showcase the award at their site. For more information on the criteria and/or for assistance with applying, contact Emily Brinkman at ebrinkman@ksde.org or (785) 296-2276.

Healthy Holidays!
Happy & healthy holidays from the Child Nutrition & Wellness team! Please call or email your area Child Nutrition Consultant or any of the Topeka office staff if you have questions or for technical assistance!

Cheryl, Jill and Julie

For more information, contact:
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