New USDA Guidance
Previously Issued Questions and Answers Relating to Operation of the Child Nutrition Programs: Updated for School Year 2021-2022 (CACFP 14 - 2021)
This memorandum provides clarification on questions related to Child Nutrition Program operations. Read the entire policy memo at: https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/operation-child-nutrition-programs-2021-2022.

Selected Q & As:
#36. During COVID-19 how may we offer the enrichment activity if we are operating in a non-congregate setting for social distancing and safety?
A. CACFP At-risk afterschool care centers providing non-congregate meals under Child Nutrition Response #87, Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Meal Service for School Year 2021-2022, https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/child-nutrition-response-87, must comply with the requirement to provide an education or enrichment activity (7 CFR 226.17a(b)(1)). However, under the non-congregate and parent pick-up waivers, these activities may be conducted virtually or in other non-congregate ways. Program operators may consider offering online homework assistance, activity packets, electronic games and books, or other e-learning activities for the children to partake in at home. For example, Team Nutrition offers a variety of online games, books, and nutrition education activities for children at: https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/digital-nutrition-resources-kids. Although children are not required to participate in or complete the activity in order to receive an afterschool meal or snack, the afterschool care center must offer the activity.

#41. How can CACFP at-risk centers track attendance to claim reimbursement for meals and snacks served to children participating virtually?
A. At-risk centers approved to participate under the COVID-19 waivers continue to maintain attendance records, as required under 7 CFR 226.17a(o)(1). This includes daily attendance rosters, sign-in sheets, or with State agency approval, other methods that result in accurate recording of daily attendance. When children participate virtually, flexibility in using other methods may be needed. For example, if it would result in accurate recording of daily attendance, the State agency may approve documentation of meal pick-up or meal delivery as a record of a child’s attendance. The State agency should work with at-risk centers and sponsors to develop appropriate methods to document attendance and conform with the program’s COVID-19 safety policies.

Next Steps for Implementation of the Emergency Operating Costs Reimbursement Program
Sponsors who are eligible to receive Emergency Operating Costs Reimbursement will be notified via email in mid-August. A statement of the calculated reimbursement will be provided as well as an excel spreadsheet calculator to review the calculation. The Authorized Representative will be required to certify that the reimbursement total has been reviewed and is correct and then scan and email the signed document to cnw@ksde.org. If you have questions regarding the Emergency Operating Costs Program, please contact Julie (jhenry@ksde.org).
Reimbursement Rates
Reimbursement Rates for FY2022 will be posted at www.kn-eat.org, Child & Adult Care Food Program, Key Links as soon as the cash-in-lieu information is available.

CACFP Certification
Program Certification will be available in KN-CLAIM August 9, 2021. CACFP Certification Guides for Centers and Homes will be available at www.kn-eat.org, CACFP, Program Certification.

CACFP Certification Webinar, August 3
Make plans to participate in the CACFP Certification Webinar scheduled for Tuesday, August 3 at 2 pm via zoom at: https://ksde.zoom.us/j/85450103686?pwd=UEhkUDUwT1hqcVNaNVdCYTkyem81UT09.
Note: The Certification webinar is not required and not a replacement for the required Administrative Workshop. You are encouraged to take part to aid in understanding of the Certification process for PY 2021-2022.

Have You Updated Sponsor Information in KN-CLAIM Lately?
As August/September signal the start of the school year, it’s a good time to update all information in KN-CLAIM:

- Inform the Topeka office of any change in the Authorized Representative by completing and mailing the form “Appointment of a New Authorized Representative”.
- Update the sponsor application and site applications with the current Authorized Representative, board president, executive director and/or other contact persons if needed.
- If there are sites no longer needed or new sites need to be added, please contact your area Child Nutrition Consultant.
- Update the meal service times and meals offered, if there have been or are going to be changes.
- Check to see if Food Safety Training is needed and update KN-CLAIM if a recent qualifying food safety class has been completed.

WIC Program Information
Sponsors must provide information on the importance and benefits of WIC to the parents/guardians of enrolled children. Sponsors can meet this requirement by posting a WIC program fact sheet in the facility, making WIC brochures available, posting a link to the WIC webpage on the sponsors website, Facebook page, newsletter, parent handbook, or providing to families upon initial enrollment. The WIC Program Fact Sheet can be accessed at www.kn-eat.org in the far-right column, click on the Kansas WIC logo.

CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals
Did you know that during SY 2021-22 all sites that serve school age children can qualify as CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals sites? This means that any school or child care center site that serves school age children can serve up to 1 meal and/or snack per child per day after the school day, weekend and/or holidays and receive the CACFP free reimbursement rate in addition to serving a breakfast and lunch on school days under the Seamless Summer Option or the CACFP. If you’d like to learn more about serving CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals contact your Child Nutrition Consultant and check out the At-Risk Afterschool Meals online training on the KSDE Training Portal, https://learning.ksde.org, Child Nutrition & Wellness, Child & Adult Care Food Program.
Updated Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Child Nutrition Programs from CDC
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently updated the COVID-19 Guidance for Operating Early Care and Education/ CDC. Complete guidance can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html.

- Maximize physical distance as much as possible between people who are not fully vaccinated while eating (especially indoors). When possible, consider using additional spaces for mealtime seating, including eating meals and snacks outdoors or in well-ventilated spaces whenever possible.
- Given very low risk of transmission from food, food packaging, surfaces and shared objects, there is no need to limit food service operations to single use items and packaged meals.
- People should wash hands with soap and water before and after family style meals.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces. Surfaces that come in contact with food should be washed and sanitized before and after meals.
- Promote hand washing before, during, and after shifts, before and after eating, after using the toilet, and after handling garbage, dirty dishes, or removing gloves.
- Improve ventilation in food preparation, service, and eating areas.

Professional Development Opportunities
Administrative Workshop
At least one representative from each Sponsor must complete the CACFP Administrative Workshop training before annual CACFP Certification is completed. Program Year 2021-22 CACFP Administrative Workshop was offered via live webinar on July 14. Sponsors unable to attend the live webinar training must take the training through the KSDE Learning Portal. Access the online training after August 2 at https://learning.ksde.org.

Professional Development Opportunities
Many opportunities for learning are available for CACFP Sponsors. Go to www.kn-eat.org, CNW Calendar to access the class list with dates, times and ZOOM links. Professional Development Classes offered in August will include:

Reducing the Risk of Choking Training – August 11, 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Join KSDE for a live webinar training to learn about actionable steps providers can take to reduce a child’s risk of choking. Providers will learn about developmental readiness for the introduction and advancement of solid foods when feeding infants, identify food preparation methods to prepare foods that are easy to chew and swallow and learn tips to teach good eating habits during meal time. Join the webinar on August 11 at 1:00 pm using the following link: https://ksde.zoom.us/j/86192323816?pwd=MXhLalBnV0VCZWD1OHdaU2NOZzB4QT09. This training will be recorded and posted to the KSDE Training Portal at a later date.

CACFP Determining Eligibility – Income Eligibility Category Summary Training – New Date!
On September 22, KSDE will offer a live webinar training at 1:30 pm focused on Determining Eligibility in the CACFP and completing the Income Eligibility Category Summary. Sponsors can access the training via zoom at: https://ksde.zoom.us/j/94616914936?pwd=NC9pTTBTRIVYMGB3alJrcng1SkNSZzz09
**Culinary Corner: CACFP Knife Skills – Save the Date!**
You don't have to be a chef to be able to use a knife safely and efficiently. Join KSDE on September 28 at 1:00 pm for this engaging knife skills demonstration via zoom using the following link: https://ksde.zoom.us/j/89158688893.

**Online Professional Development Classes and Tutorials**
CNW staff continue to develop new interactive online training classes and tutorials that can be accessed free of charge 24/7 via the KSDE Training Portal. The online professional development classes offer a printable certificate upon successful completion. Tutorials have no quiz and no certificate. Create an account now at https://learning.ksde.org. For detailed instructions on creating an account and accessing the training, go to www.kn-eat.org, Child and Adult Care Food Programs, Training, Online Classes.

**Sunflower Spotlight**
P0765 Life Preparatory Academy/Word of Life Preschool and Childcare has developed a program based upon Learning with Movement. Joy Fraser, Director, has a true passion for changing the way they teach in a classroom by incorporating more movement. She even changed out the desk in her office for a standing desk. Many of the tools for movement are expensive so she worked with her maintenance person to create tools. A ladder was created with different colored rungs that lays flat on the ground and in the spaces between the rungs there are different flash cards (numbers, letters, and colors). As the child works through the activity they have to answer the question for each flash card as they go through the ladder. They also have taken child size bicycles and have mounted them to make stationary bikes and then mounted tablet holders on the handle bars. This way children are riding the bike as they are working on the tablets for screen time. They also use small trampolines to allow children to move as the teacher reads a book or covers other lesson plans. By implementing these items at the Center, she has found that 3-year-old children are learning twice as much as they did in the old-style setting. The church is supporting her vision and they have broken ground on a new center that will be designed around learning with movement.

**The 3rd Annual Mountain Plains Crunch Off – October 2021**
This year’s registrants are able to crunch on not only apples; but ANY local crunchable produce! Kansas is participating in the Mountain Plains Crunch Off with seven other regional states. Celebrate with local produce on Wednesday, October 14 or pick another day in October to participate in the crunch off. Registration opens August 1. Make your event plans now and register your event at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/79XXHNM. Crunchable local produce can be found in many places-school/child care gardens, farmer’s market, local distributors or https://shopkansasfarms.com/map/. A toolkit with resources and marketing information is provided at the registration link. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Depew, Farm to Plate Project Director at bdepew@ksde.org or phone 785-296-0062.

As always, if you have questions or need technical assistance, please contact your Child Nutrition Consultant or the Topeka office.

**Cheryl, Jill and Julie**
Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

For more information, contact:

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