COVID-19 Update

Child Nutrition Program Meal Service during COVID-19 Outbreaks
November 10, 2020


2021 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Program Renewal
All program renewal forms, instructions and guidance are available at www.kn-eat.org, Summer Food Service Program, Administration, Program Renewal (Program Renewal is in the drop-down list when you hover over Administration). Meals cannot be claimed for January until all program renewal documents are approved by KSDE.

SFSP Administrative Training
Thanks to all who attended training during the Town Hall today. If you missed the training or had to leave early, the ZOOM recording for SFSP Administrative Training is now available at https://ksde.zoom.us/rec/share/Ydbb-yu6XEQj8urdyl91PSD22WXz52S2IMXBJhZsF2oeeef_hjewFgdQkGynxK7.f2TkhHTgTbMpJGHX. Completion of the training meets the annual SFSP training requirement.

Verification
KSDE CNW will conduct Verification training on December 1 at 2 PM. Join at this link: https://ksde.zoom.us/j/97099922524?pwd=MmxZalNFS1jJSd5S1dHN3Z1V2ZUZz09. Sponsors can wait to begin Verification until after the December 1st training; however, Verification screens are now available in KN-CLAIM and Sponsors can begin Verification prior to the training:

- Count total number of applications received as of October 1 and total number of students approved for reduced price and free meals as of October 31. Applications in “carry-over” status on October 1 should NOT be included in these counts.
- Complete the Pre-Verification Worksheet in KN-CLAIM to determine the Sponsor’s sampling method. Access the Pre-Verification Worksheet in KN-CLAIM by selecting School Nutrition Programs, Program Year 2021 and then clicking on the “Forms” tab on the Sponsor Summary page. On the same line at “Pre-Verification Worksheet” click the button which can be found at the right-hand side of the screen and has the image of a + sign.
- For step-by-step instructions, the Verification Quick Reference Guide can assist you in completing the Pre-Verification Worksheet correctly. Please download the guide at www.kneat.org, KN-CLAIM, SNP, Quick References, Verification Reporting. (Note: This guide is currently being updated to reflect the new Verification due date of February 28th)
- Once the Pre-Verification Worksheet is submitted, go into the Post-Verification Results screen to see the number of applications that must be verified. Verify ONLY the number required unless application(s) are verified “for cause”.
- Sponsors participating in CEP, but not district-wide, will be able to enter the number of Directly Certified students in CEP schools and those in non-CEP schools.
- February 28 – Deadline to complete and report all verification activities in KN-CLAIM.
New Resources Now Available in English and Spanish

Reminders
- Continue to directly certify students.
- When updating the non-congregate waiver, do not delete information, just add new information.
- Sponsors implementing the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) must update their School Nutrition Program Site Applications to add SSO information for January through the end of the school year.

Remote Learning, Snow/Ice Day & Child Nutrition Program Meal Service Q & As
Q. Are schools required to offer meals to students who are not physically present at school? For example, if a school is operating on a schedule where half the students are physically at school on a given school day and half the students are participating in school through remote learning, must the students participating in remote learning be offered meals? What if all students are learning remotely, must meals be offered?
A. Yes, according to 7 CFR 210.1 and KSA Statute 72-17,145, Sponsors who enter into a Program Agreement to participate in the Child Nutrition Programs are to serve nutritious meals each school day, including offsite remote learning days. Meals must be offered to every enrolled student whether they attend remotely or in person. The school has the discretion to choose how non-congregate meals will be offered, such as grab and go or meal delivery. (SP24-2020 and 7 CFR 210.1)

Q. Must Child Nutrition Program meals be provided on an unanticipated Snow/Ice Day when school is not in session (no remote learning)?
A. No; however, schools can choose to offer meals when school is not in session.

Q. Must Child Nutrition Program meals be provided on an unanticipated Snow/Ice Day when school is in session (all students are switched to remote learning)?
A. It depends. USDA certainly wants Sponsors to serve meals if there is any way that they can, especially with meal pick-up being an option, even if at just one site. However, if it is determined this is not feasible due to extreme weather, and the site follows its approved extreme weather meal service policy, the Sponsor would still be in compliance with the Program Agreement.

A school that is considering a Snow/Ice Day to be a remote learning day, must update their Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Site Application Q.62 and Q.63 or the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Site Application Q.66 detailing their considerations as to what is severe enough to stop meal service, plans to provide access to meals if at all possible, and how households would be notified of the change in meal service on extreme weather remote learning days.
Q. **What should Sponsors consider as they develop their extreme weather meal service policy?**

A.  
- This school year Sponsors can provide meals in advance. The extreme meal service policy could indicate a pre-determined time food service would have to be notified the day before a Snow/Remote Learning Day for meals to be provided to students to take home in advance.
- Sponsors may want to survey households to determine interest in meals on days with extreme weather and consider that data when developing the local policy.
- Another consideration could be having one site stocked with emergency meals that could be distributed on an extreme weather day if deemed safe for a staff member to be present to distribute meals.
- The policy should identify how the Sponsor will communicate changes in meal service with households due to extreme weather.
- Sponsors considering using Snow/Ice Days as Remote Learning Days, must ensure their policy will not intentionally or unintentionally create barriers to access and/or discriminate against any protected class/group, per their program agreement.

Join us for the next Town Hall Tuesday at 2 on November 17th at [https://ksde.zoom.us/j/93001580396?pwd=ZIlMTVuemh3d0VoVU80aGVQcmpuZz09](https://ksde.zoom.us/j/93001580396?pwd=ZIlMTVuemh3d0VoVU80aGVQcmpuZz09). The training topic will be Strategies for Increasing Participation.

As always, contact your area Child Nutrition Consultant or the Topeka office if you have questions or we can help in any way.

**Cheryl, Jill and Julie**

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