Reply to Attn. of: CACFP-364

Subject: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Policy Memorandum

To: STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS (Special Nutrition Programs) - Colorado DH, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri DH, Montana DHES, Nebraska ED, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming ED

Attached is a summary of questions and answers that have been raised since our last CACFP question and answer memorandum, CACFP-349, dated June 18, 1993. We will continue to compile additional information and submit it to the State Agencies as the need arises.

Ann C. Hector
ANN C. HECTOR
Regional Director
Special Nutrition Programs

Attachment
CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP) QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Q. Does a guardian completing an Income Eligibility Form (IEF) for an adult participant have to sign and give his/her social security number (SSN)?

   A. Yes. If a guardian completes and signs an IEF on behalf of a participant, his/her SSN must be given.

2. Q. Could meals be claimed for a breastfed infant, 3 months or younger, if the physician prescribes solid foods; i.e., infant cereal, for the infant?

   A. Yes. Meals can be reimbursed if the infant eats the cereal in addition to consuming 4-6 ounces of breast milk or formula at the respective meal.

3. Q. Are infant meal patterns flexible to reflect ethnic feeding habits and/or patterns of the parents? Background: infants in care at an inner-city high school day care center are used to highly spiced table foods at home.

   A. For infants less than 8 months old, the answer is yes. The solid food components included in all the meals in the infant meal pattern for infants less than 8 months old are optional. For infants 8 months and older, the infant meal pattern is flexible to reflect ethnic and cultural food habits to a certain degree. Foods such as fruits, vegetables, fruit juices, meats, fish, poultry, egg yolk, cooked dry beans, peas, and cheese products could include home-prepared ethnic or cultural foods. However, the requirements for iron-fortified infant cereal, and bread or crackers, which must be made from whole-grain or enriched meal or flour, limit flexibility with respect to ethnic and cultural food preferences.

4. Q. Private nonprofit sponsors are required to pay State sales taxes on purchases and then apply to the State for a refund. How should this be reported on their claim?

   A. It should be reported as a cost when incurred. Then in the month the refund is received, it should be deducted from total costs reported.

5. Q. In the above instance there is a provision that the merchant/vendor may choose to pay the tax for the sponsor. Can the SA require those sponsors to deal only with such merchants/vendors?

   A. No. However, the SA may choose to advise the sponsors of those merchants/vendors as a courtesy.
6. Q. The memoranda regarding Low Income Rural Expansion funds states "low income and rural." Does this mean both conditions have to be met for the issuance of these funds?

A. No. The intent is to expand into low income OR rural areas. Therefore, only one of these conditions has to be met.

7. Q. In considering further expansion funds to a sponsoring organization (SO), what is meant by "SO has satisfactorily expanded into areas...."?

A. This is left to the discretion of the SA as to what is seen as satisfactorily expanded. It can mean the SO completed the plan. It does not necessarily mean it got the stated number of FDCHs anticipated.

8. Q. Can 2 percent audit funds be used to fund debt collection activities; i.e., pay for a part-time position to follow up on collections of audit overclaims?

A. No. The Regulations do not allow use of 2 percent audit funds for this activity.

9. Q. Can SAE funds be used to cover the cost of debt collection activities?

A. Yes. However, it might be more cost effective to use SAE funds on preventative activities such as training and technical assistance.