Reply to:  
Attn. of: CACFP-470  

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

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

Attached is a summary of questions and answers that have been raised since our last CACFP question and answer memorandum, CACFP-459, dated February 28, 1996. We will continue to compile additional information and submit it to the State Agencies as the need arises.

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Attachment
CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
JUNE 1996

1. Q. A family day care home (FDCH) provider cares for her nephew on a full time basis (the child is residential). The child has an AFDC number, the provider does not. Can the child's meals be claimed?

   A. Yes. Eligibility is based on the child's categorical eligibility; however, other children must be enrolled and in care.

2. Q. An FDCH provider packs lunches for children who attend preschool. Can these lunches be claimed for reimbursement?

   A. No. The children must be in attendance and in her care during mealtime for the meals to be claimed.

3. Q. Can yogurt be credited when used in a combination food; i.e., a recipe for pudding?

   A. Yes.

4. Q. A school district sponsors an outside-school-hours center. Can the school IEFs be used for the CACFP?

   A. Yes.

5. Q. One sponsoring organization (SO) of FDCHs rents a house for an office from a brother, and another rents from a mother-in-law. Both claim rent. Is this permissible?

   A. No. Since both arrangements are less-than-arms-length, they can only claim depreciation or a use allowance per Instruction 796-2, Rev. 2 VIII A 8 and 21 e.
6. Q. The new Grains/Bread Requirement Instruction 783-1, Rev. 1, indicates crusts for dessert pies and meat/meat alternate (M/MA) pies are creditable. Can dessert pie crusts be credited as a bread for snacks?

A. No. Crediting issues remain the same as they have in the past. For M/MA pie crust, reference the Food Buying Guide, page 119.

7. Q. In respect to snack products such as chips made from whole-grain and/or enriched meal or flour, does this include such items as 'Fritos', 'Doritos', 'Cheetos', etc.?

A. If these items meet the enriched flour or meal or whole-grain definition as well as the weight requirements, they may be creditable. Reference paragraph 3 of the cover letter transmitting Instruction 783-1, Rev.1, dated April 2, 1996.

8. Q. Can the items in Question 7 be creditable for lunch?

A. Yes.

9. Q. Will cakes be creditable for snacks?

A. No. Only coffee cake, etc. will be creditable.

10. Q. Is it correct that grain/bread items no longer require the first ingredient by weight to be whole-grain or enriched meal or flour?

A. Yes. As long as grain/bread items are made with whole-grain or enriched meal or flour in the quantities specified in Instruction 783-1, Rev.1, Attachment A, they are creditable.

11. Q. Will this eliminate looking at recipes to determine if they are creditable?

A. No. In addition to confirming that whole-grain and/or enriched meal or flour are used, the weight of the serving must also be determined.

12. Q. What is the definition of a plain brownie?

A. One without added items; i.e., nuts, raisins, etc. or frosting.
13. Q. Will a frosted brownie with added items be creditable?

A. Yes. Reference Groups D and E of the Instruction. Where added items or frosting are used, the serving is .4 ounce larger. We suggest this be used as a rule of thumb.

14. Q. A center had lunches donated by McDonalds. Can these lunches be claimed for reimbursement?

A. Yes. If the institution has prior State Agency (SA) approval and can ensure that all component and quantity requirements are met. Reference CACFP 459-9 for a similar question.

15. Q. Instruction 113-4 requires institutions to gather racial/ethnic data annually for potential beneficiaries for the areas which are served. If the institutions are using census data to meet this requirement, can the SA allow the institution to provide the information once and hold it on file for the years in which the census data are good?

A. Yes.

16. Q. Regarding the required reviews by the SO of new FDCHs within the first 4 weeks of operation, should these reviews be made within 4 weeks of the date of the agreement or when the FDCH actually begins operation?

A. The time frame for the review should be based on the day the provider starts feeding children and keeping records. We would encourage an SO to get in quickly to ensure the provider was serving meals and keeping records correctly.

The following questions came from the State Consultants’ Meeting in Colorado Springs:

17. Q. Are SA reviewers required to take an actual current attendance count by racial/ethnic group when conducting a review of an institution?

A. No. Instruction 113-4, Section VII B 3 b (2) outlines the minimum items that must be reviewed relative to this. The SA needs to ensure that the institution is collecting this data. However, an SA can take an actual count if desired.
18. Q. In family-style meal service, do all components have to be put on each child's plate?

A. No. Instruction 783-9, Rev. 2 states that all components must be placed on the table. If a child does not initially accept the required amount or all components, the supervising adult should offer the food(s) again.

19. Q. Can the racial/ethnic categories be changed to include a "mixed race" designation?

A. The Department does not have the authority to change the current designated categories. However, our Regional Civil Rights Director advised us that the Office of Management and Budget previously solicited comments for adding (amongst other things) a "multi-racial" category to the list of racial designations so that respondents would not be forced to deny part of their heritage by having to choose another category. Until a change is formally made, no changes can be made at this time.

20. Q. Can states utilize other means besides certified mail when giving institutions their right to appeal in writing?

A. Yes. The important point is that whatever is utilized accomplishes the same principles that certified mail does; i.e., it is documented, secures a proper signature, and is dated acknowledging the receipt of the appealable action. We believe it is imperative that any appellant also be afforded the full time frame allowed to consider and file an appeal. We would take exception to any system which circumvented any of the above.