CACFP-615

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Questions and Answers

To: STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS - (Child Nutrition Programs) Colorado DPHE, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri DH, Montana DPHSS, 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-601 dated, February 7, 2000.

We will continue to compile additional questions and answers and forward them to you periodically.

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Attachment
1. Q. A 21st Century school meets the qualification of providing an at-risk afterschool snack since it is in a geographical area served by a school in which 50 percent or more of the children enrolled are eligible for free or reduced price meals. However, the 21st Century school is not interested in sponsoring such a program. The city Department of Health (DOH) is interested in sponsoring the CACFP with an afterschool snack at the site. The criteria for an at-risk program is: the sponsor (in this case the DOH) (a) provides children with regularly scheduled activities in an organized, structured, and supervised environment; (b) includes educational or enrichment activities; and (c) is located in a geographical area which is low-income. Since the DOH does not meet any of these criteria, can it sponsor an at-risk program at this school?

A. Yes. The DOH can have the CACFP agreement and provide the food, while the school operates the afterschool care program. The DOH, through its agreement, is responsible to ensure that the sites meet the criteria. If a site does not operate an afterschool program or if the criteria for eligibility are not met, the DOH would be held liable.

2. Q. Can the income of temporary census workers be excluded from consideration as income under the CACFP?

A. No. There is no statutory or regulatory authority to authorize such an exclusion.

3. Q. A parent wants her baby to receive only organic foods. The parent uses an organic baby food that she wants the provider to purchase which is more expensive than the infant cereal used by the provider. Does the provider have to purchase this baby food for the one child?

A. No. The provider provides an infant cereal. If the parent does not want this cereal the parent can furnish her own cereal. The provider would not claim this child’s meals if the parent provides all the food.
However, if the provider provides one of the components in at least the minimum quantities specified in the meal pattern, the provider could claim the meal as reimbursable.

4. Q. Can tofu be used as the only meat alternate?
   A. No. Tofu is a soybean curd and there is not a Standard of Identity for it. The product can vary from one manufacturer to another (reference page 15 in Crediting Foods in the CACFP).

5. Q. The National School Lunch Program Regulations allow enriched macaroni fortified with protein to be credited as 1/2 of the meat/meat alternate. Are these products creditable in the CACFP?
   A. No.

6. Q. A person claimed the cancellation of a bad debt on their IRS 1040 form. The IRS considers this as income. Is this considered as income by the Food and Nutrition Service?
   A. No. This would be considered one-time earnings. Lump sum payments are not to be considered as income per the Eligibility Guidance for Family Day Care Homes (page 33) and the Eligibility Guidance for Centers (page 15). The cancellation of a bad debt would not be money available for the child(ren)'s meals.

7. Q. Can a provider choose to care for a breastfed infant and not care for a formula fed infant due to the cost of the formula?
   A. No. In this case, it would not be right for the provider to manipulate the CACFP by being selective with the type of food the family has chosen to feed the infant. Once the choice is made to participate, the institution or facility could not manipulate the system and only take/claim breastfed infants.
8. Q. An institution operates both a Headstart and a child care center. Can it confer one child's automatic eligibility in Headstart CACFP due to Headstart eligibility to a sibling in the child care center?

A. No. A child's automatic eligibility in Headstart, or in Even Start, cannot be used to confer eligibility in CACFP for a brother or a sister. The facility would have to obtain an income eligibility statement from the household to determine the sibling's eligibility.

9. Q. If a Tier I provider participates in the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program and receives carrots and cereal in the WIC package, can these foods be served to the children in care other than the provider's own children? Can these meals be claimed for reimbursement?

A. The perspective regarding CACFP meals and reimbursement is that the meals are reimbursable. However, the perspective for WIC may be that this is not allowed, so check with your state WIC agency for clarification.

10. Q. Can a day care center that is eligible for at-risk snacks serve a supper from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM and claim it as a snack for ages 13-18, and the same meal at the same time as a supper for children 12 years of age and under?

A. Yes. Since this is a day care center with children enrolled for day care, the supper may be claimed as a supper for children, 12 years and under, enrolled in day care. However, if this were just an at-risk center serving both age groups, only a snack could be claimed.

11. Q. When is an audit report due to the Clearing House?

A. The report is due nine months after the end of the audited period.
12. Q. Is the actual audit report required to be sent to the State Agency (SA)?

A. No. Question 41 of the Questions and Answers on the OMB Circular A-133, dated June 15, 1998 states that the entire reporting package is not required to be sent to the SA unless: 1) its current year A-133 audit generated findings and questioned costs relating to awards received from the SA, and/or 2) its Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings shows deficiencies from prior audits relating to awards received from the SA, for which corrective action remains incomplete. If the subgrantee is not required to submit the entire report based on items 1 or 2 above, it must notify the SA in writing to this effect. Such written notification must expressly state that: 1) the audit had been made in accordance with 7 CFR Part 3052; 2) there were no findings or questioned costs relating to awards received from the SA; and 3) there were no unresolved prior year audit findings relating to such awards.