Reimbursement of Infant Meals in the Child Nutrition Programs

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

The Child Nutrition Programs reimburse childcare centers, family day care homes, emergency shelters, schools, and residential childcare institutions for the costs of serving nutritious meals, including the costs of preparation and clean up of meals, to infants. We are revising our policy (CACFP-675 dated May 31, 2002) to recognize the non-food related cost of serving infants by allowing reimbursement for meals containing only infant formula, whether supplied by the caregiver or by the parent.

Reimbursable meals for infants may contain either breast milk or iron-fortified infant formula, or both, supplied by the caregiver or by the parent. However, to receive reimbursement, the caregiver must always offer the infant a complete, developmentally appropriate meal. Because we are recognizing the labor involved in serving meals to infants, the meal must be served and fed to the infant by the caregiver.

If you have additional questions about the reimbursement of infant meals, please contact our office at (303) 844-0359.

Mary Mehl

DARLENE SANCHEZ
Regional Director
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