Reply to
Attn. of: SFSP-296

Subject: Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Questions and Answers

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

Attached are questions and answers that have been received from State Agencies and Field Offices since our memorandum, SFSP-288, dated May 8, 1996. Please contact my staff at (303) 844-0359 if you need further clarification.

Mary Breed
ANN C. DEGROAT
Regional Director
Child Nutrition Programs

Attachment
1. Q. Can the required first week's site visit be made during the second week since the bulk of children participate then?
   A. No. The site visit must be in the first week. That gives time to fix any noted problems before the increase in participation.

2. Q. The SFSP Sponsors Fiscal Guide states a sponsor may receive an operating advance payment which would be the greater of three items, one being "50% of the estimated amount needed for this summer by those sponsors who contract with FSMCs". Is this correct?
   A. No; it should read "50% of the estimated amount needed for this month by those sponsors who contract with FSMCs".

3. Q. A school sponsored site serves 300 - 500 children per day at lunch. Parents of a Jewish child have requested meals meeting the dietary requirements of their religion. Is the sponsor required to meet this request?
   A. No. FCS Instruction 783-13, Rev. 2, Variations in Meal Requirements for Religious Reasons: Jewish Schools, Institutions, and Sponsors states: "Entities wishing to exercise the options available (in the Instruction)....shall notify the State Agency ....SFSP sponsors shall do so on behalf of their facilities or sites. The decision to exercise these options shall be at the facility or site level". Therefore, a sponsor not wishing to meet such a request is not required to do so.
4. Q. Is reduced-fat peanut butter creditable as a meat/meat (M/MA) alternate?
A. No. Reduced-fat peanut butter cannot be credited as an M/MA in the CNP. There is no Standard of Identity for the product and, therefore, each brand may have a different amount of actual peanut in it.

5. Q. Is low fat and fat free cheese creditable as an M/MA?
A. Yes. FDA has identified these as cheese products and, therefore, they can be used as an M/MA.

6. Q. Could meals be brought from an SFSP feeding site to a child in a full body cast who is confined to his home?
A. No. These meals would be considered to be taken off site and would not be reimbursable.

7. Q. Is frozen yogurt creditable?
A. No. There is no Standard of Identity for these products. Therefore the amount of yogurt in any particular brand is unknown.

8. Q. Are "Jell-O Kid Pack Wild Berry Lowfat Yogurt" and "Yo-Gel" yogurt creditable as an M/MA?
A. Yes. Both are labeled as a yogurt as opposed to a yogurt product. Therefore, since yogurt has a Standard of Identity, both are creditable.