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

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

Attached are questions and answers that have been received from State Agencies since our memorandum, SFSP-344, dated June 30, 1998.

Please contact my staff at (303) 844-0359 if you need further clarification.

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Attachment
SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM (SFSP)  
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
AUGUST 1998

1. Q. Can a State Agency (SA) approve a mileage rate for a private non-profit organization which is higher than the SA rate?

A. Yes. The SFSP Financial Management Instruction FNS 796-4, Revision 4 states only that mileage costs are allowable and does not go into any further detail. However, the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Financial Management Instruction FNS 796-2, Revision 2, states that the rate for mileage must be reasonable, and must be consistent with the mileage allowance used by the institution for non-federal funded travel. Since this Instruction is taken from the OMB Circular A-122 which applies to both the CACFP and SFSP, this would apply to the SFSP also.

2. Q. Can an advance be withheld from a sponsor if the application is pending additional materials?

A. Yes. Advances are issued only to approved sponsors.

3. Q. A sponsor that normally participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) switches to the SFSP each year (following the principles of FNS Instruction 782-4, Revision 2). Of about 200 children, this year 41 are participating in the Early Head Start Program during the summer months and eat in a separate classroom. The sponsor does not want to run simultaneous programs so it would like to have all its children on the SFSP. Is this permissible in this situation?

A. No. Any child currently participating in a Head Start Program must remain on the CACFP. If the child is not actually in a Head Start Program during the months of SFSP operations, then it would be allowable to claim these children as SFSP participants.
4. Q. If a residential camp has more than 50 percent of children free and reduced price (F/RP) eligible, can it become an enrolled site (i.e.; claim all children two meals per day)?

A. No. Residential camps can ONLY claim F/RP eligible children, and then up to three meals per day. Section 13 (a) (1) (B) of the National School Lunch Program Act defines service institutions, one of which is RESIDENTIAL public or private non-profit summer camps. Section 13 (a) (5) then states "camps that satisfy all other eligibility requirements of this section shall receive reimbursement only for meals served to children who meet the eligibility requirements for free or reduced price meals as determined under this Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966..."

5. Q. A sponsor made some income through the sale of non-program adult meals. Can it use those funds to purchase chips, candy, or ice cream to add to the children's meals at the end of the Program year as a treat?

A. Yes. Although Program income can be and should be used to enhance the meals, we would encourage more nutritious items. However, since this is a one time situation, it would be permissible.

**THIS IS A REVISION TO QUESTION #2, SFSP-344:**

6. Q. Can an NYSP be eligible for the SFSP by virtue of its being a Title 1 school?

A. The Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) requires that at least 90% of participants attending each NYSP site come from households with incomes at or below the Federal income poverty level. The NYSP eligibility exceeds the SFSP participation requirement that children in the area come from households with income at or below 185% of the poverty level. Therefore, NYSP designation by HHS is sufficient to establish SFSP site eligibility. (see SFSP-346)