Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Questions and Answers (Q&As)

State Agency Directors - 
(Child Nutrition Programs) 

To: 

Colorado ED, Iowa, Kansas 
Missouri DH, Montana OPI, 
Nebraska, North Dakota, 
South Dakota, and Utah 

For your information, attached is a list of policy Q&As on the SFSP that we have compiled based on questions raised by state agencies since our last Q&A memorandum SFSP-432, issued September 7, 2001.

As you know, we periodically review questions asked by state agencies and issue a Q&A policy memorandum such as this. We will continue to transmit any National policies as the need arises.

If you have any questions, please contact our office.

BRIAN ALLISON 
Acting Regional Director 
Special Nutrition Programs 

Attachment
Unanticipated School Closure:

1. Q. What type of event must occur for a school to have an unanticipated closure?

   A. An unanticipated school closure is defined as a natural disaster, major building repair, court orders, labor-management dispute (strike) or similar causes approved by the SA. This description is located in the preamble of the December 29, 1999 Federal Register, page 72890.

2. Q. Is it allowable for the sponsor to provide meals in any area of a school during unanticipated school closures?

   A. No, the Regulations only allow for meal service at non-school sites during unanticipated school closures. [225.6(d)(1)(iv)]

3. Q. Are school sponsors eligible to participate during unanticipated school closures?

   A. Yes, as long as the sponsor is eligible to participate in the SFSP, the SA may approve school sponsors and all other sponsor types during unanticipated school closures. The only Regulatory restriction is for the location of the sites as explained in #2 above.

4. Q. Do unanticipated school closures only apply to the period between October and May?

   A. No, in areas where schools operate on a year-round basis, an unanticipated closure could occur any month(s) including the summer months.
Site Eligibility:

5. Q. If a sponsor wants to use school data to document open site eligibility, must the sponsor provide transportation to the SFSP site for all children that the school data was based upon?

A. No, it is not the responsibility of the sponsor to ensure that all children have transportation to the site even if those children were bussed in during the academic year.

Meal Service:

6. Q. What meal service combinations may be provided at a site other than a migrant or camp site?

A. As explained in SFSP-381, the meal service combinations that may be provided at a site that is not migrant or a camp site are the following combinations:

- Breakfast
- Snack
- Lunch
- Supper
- Breakfast and AM snack
- Breakfast and lunch
- Breakfast and PM snack
- Breakfast and supper
- Lunch and AM snack
- Lunch and PM snack
- Supper and AM snack
- Supper and PM snack
- Two snacks

The only unallowable meal combination is a lunch and supper.

Appeal Requirements:

7. Q. If a sponsor did not earn its advance and the SA requires that the unearned funds be returned, must appeal rights be provided?

A. Yes, as explained in Section 225.13(a) appeal rights must be provided for a claim against a sponsor for remittance of a payment.