

# Monthly Update



## Summer Food Service Program

February 6, 2025

*Distributed to Summer Food Service Program Authorized Representatives and posted at <https://cnw.ksde.gov>, SFSP, SFSP Monthly Updates*

### **Get Ready for Summer 2025! What You Need to Know!**

It's hard to believe that plans are already underway for serving Summer Meals in 2025! This edition of the SFSP update includes a succinct overview of essential policy memos and guidance and of course important training opportunities that you'll want to get on the calendar to prepare for SFSP 2025!

### **SFSP Renewal Training - Town Hall Thursday at 2 on March 13**

Agenda items for the March Town Hall include Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) renewal training and administrative updates. Join the meeting on March 13 at 2 pm at this Microsoft Teams link: [Join the meeting now](#) (Meeting ID: 241 814 717 448 Passcode: hW7Wy3Ax).

Please note that Town Hall meetings will now be held on Microsoft Teams (not Zoom). The previous Zoom link will not work for Town Hall meetings moving forward. Instructions for joining a Microsoft Teams meeting are available at <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/join-a-teams-meeting-078e9868-f1aa-4414-8bb9-ee88e9236ee4>

### **SFSP Annual Administrative Training – March 26**

Are you planning to offer meals through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) this summer? If so, join KSDE on Wednesday, March 26 from 1:00-4:00 pm for SFSP Administrative Training. The training will be offered live via Zoom at the following link: <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/85406961050?pwd=inGc7bnw2PzvVbOrpzBUFymJET9odP.1> Passcode:435352

For those unable to attend the live training, a recording will be available on the KSDE Training Portal at a later date. All new and returning sponsors must have at least one representative complete this administrative training in order to operate the SFSP in summer 2025.

### **Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas Training – March 27**

If your sponsor is planning to offer non-congregate meals through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) in summer 2025, at least one sponsor representative must attend the Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas Training on Thursday, March 27 from 2:00-3:00 pm. The training will be offered live via Zoom at the following link: <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/85352333398?pwd=ptlrOZbRaCHxTv7yjjsLYk99IXgoLv.1> Passcode: 239026 Non-congregate meal service is defined by USDA as “a food service at which meals are provided for children to consume all of the components off site”. This training will explain requirements for operating non-congregate meal service sites based on USDA guidance. For those unable to attend the live training, a recording will be available on the KSDE Training Portal at a later date.

### **SFSP Reimbursement Rates**

Coming Soon to: <https://cnw.ksde.gov>, Key Links, Reimbursement Rates.



## Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) OR Seamless Summer Option?

For questions about the SFSP or the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for School Nutrition Program (SNP) Sponsors only, a Summer 2025 Comparison Chart has been developed to explain options and is posted at <https://cnw.ksde.gov>, SFSP, SFSP What's New. If you are a school Sponsor, contact our office at 785-296-2276 or your area KSDE child nutrition consultant to discuss options for Summer 2025 to determine the right fit for your Sponsorship.

## Essential Resources and Guidance from USDA

### SFSP Administration Guide

The *Summer Food Service Program Administration Guide* describes the policies and best practices for successful operation of traditional in-person summer meal sites and alternate meal service options for rural communities. It is tailored to anyone who is interested in learning program policy including, but not limited to, how to participate, apply, administer, and operate the SFSP at various levels. To access the SFSP Administrative Guide, go to: [SFSP Administration Guide | Food and Nutrition Service](#).

### Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas: Q & As #3

This memorandum is the third set of questions and answers on the rural non-congregate summer meals option established through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (the Act) ([PL 117-328](#)), and codified through the interim final rule (IFR), *Implementing Provisions from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023: Establishing the Summer EBT Program and Rural Non-congregate Option in the Summer Meal Programs* (88 FR 90230). The Act authorized permanent, non-congregate meal service through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and National School Lunch Program's (NSLP) Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for rural areas with no congregate meal service.

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide state agencies and program operators with additional clarification on rural non-congregate requirements and guidance to enhance program integrity. The first memorandum in this series, SFSP 07-2024, SP 13-2024, *Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas Questions and Answers*, Feb. 21, 2024, updates earlier guidance originally issued for summer 2023 operations and ensures consistency with the provisions of the IFR. The second memorandum in this series, SFSP 08-2024, SP 15-2024, *Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas Questions and Answers #2*, March 27, 2024, addresses additional implementation topics based on feedback received by state agencies and program stakeholders. The following operational topics are addressed in this guidance:

- Meal Service and Meal Quality;
- Civil Rights Requirements;
- Monitoring and Program Integrity; and
- General/Miscellaneous.

This memorandum can be found at: [Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas: Q&As #3 | Food and Nutrition Service](#).

### Navigating the Non-Congregate Summer Food Service Program

FNS has released a series of one-pagers entitled Navigating Non-Congregate Summer Food Service Program (SFSP): Site Caps, Navigating Non-Congregate Summer Food Service Program (SFSP): Site Proximity, and Navigating Non-Congregate Summer Food Service Program (SFSP): Parent or Guardian Pick-up. To access these resources go to: [FNS Documents & Resources | Food and Nutrition Service](#).



## Guidance for Accepting Processed Product Documentation for Meal Pattern Requirements

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide state agencies and program operators of the child nutrition programs (CNP), including the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the Summer Food Service Program, with additional information and clarification on the state agency monitoring process regarding the: 1) Child nutrition (CN) label, 2) Watermarked CN label, and 3) manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement (PFS).

This memorandum also reflects updates to the CN Label Verification System and provides clarification on the date of authorization found on the CN label versus the "Valid Until" date on the CN Label Verification Report. This memorandum supersedes:

- SP11 CACFP10 SFSP13-2015v2: *CN Labels Copied with a Watermark Acceptable Documentation*, issued March 11, 2015;
- SP27 CACFP 09 SFSP 12-2015: *Administrative Review Process Regarding CN Label, Watermarked CN Label and Manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement*, issued March 11, 2015; and
- TA 07-2010 (v3): *Guidance for Accepting Processed Product Documentation for Meal Pattern Requirements*, issued Nov. 26, 2014.

This memorandum can be found at: [Guidance for Accepting Processed Product Documentation for Meal Pattern Requirements | Food and Nutrition Service](#).

## New Branding – SUN Meals

KSDE has adopted the USDA summer meals branding campaign of **SUN Meals**. Sun Meals branding includes meals served through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO). Be on the lookout for more information and resources for Sun Meals branding.

## A Look Ahead

Please notify Emily Bonilla at [Emily.Bonilla@ksde.gov](mailto:Emily.Bonilla@ksde.gov) as soon as possible if summer plans are significantly different than last year – not participating, more sites, fewer sites, more days, fewer days, more children, fewer children, etc.

Kick-off events are a great way to build awareness among parents, recruit volunteers, and create excitement around Summer Meals! Please share with CNW any plans for kick-off events this summer by emailing Emily Bonilla at [Emily.Bonilla@ksde.gov](mailto:Emily.Bonilla@ksde.gov). Need assistance with planning a kick-off event? Now is the time to start planning. Reach out to Emily as well.

## The CNW Team is looking forward to a great 2025 SFSP!

### The CNW Team



For more information, contact:

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