



Social Media

How can we get the word out about Summer Meals? USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) counts on States, partners, and local organizations to help raise awareness, and it's good to know that social media offers even more ways to connect children with Summer Meal Programs. Social media makes it easy to reach out to parents, tap into community volunteerism, and promote Summer Meal sites and events.

Now it's your turn! Post flyers, photos, and other information about Summer Meals on your social media sites. Retweet information about Summer Meals from @USDANutrition. Here are ideas for you to try!

Sample Tweets

School's out for the summer! Help connect eligible children to free meals all summer long <http://ow.ly/sQ4qT> #SummerFoodRocks

The @USDA Summer Food Service Program provides free meals to children when school is out! <http://ow.ly/sQ4qT> #SummerFoodRocks

Children need healthy food all year long to flourish and achieve their highest ambitions! <http://ow.ly/sQ4qT> #SummerFoodRocks

When school is out, many low-income families who rely on school meals don't get the food they need, but Summer Meals help fill the gap <http://ow.ly/sQ4qT> #SummerFoodRocks

Find summer meals for kids in communities across the US at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/meals4kids> #SummerFoodRocks

Sample Facebook Posts

Are you or your organization interested in helping us get the word out about Summer Meals? Then go to <http://ow.ly/sQ4qT>. USDA has flyers, bookmarks, postcards, and more, in both English and Spanish, to raise awareness and let families know about the availability of Summer Meals and how to find meal locations near them. #SummerFoodRocks

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Summer Meals Toolkit

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Children need good nutrition all year long. When school is out during the summer, many children no longer have access to even one nutritious meal each day. Summer Meal Programs (<http://ow.ly/sQ4qT>) are here to help to fill the gap. Research shows a lack of nutrition during the summer months may set up a cycle for poor performance once school begins. We must do all we can to stop this cycle so that children are ready to learn during the school year. #SummerFoodRocks

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USDA relies on local schools and organizations to sponsor Summer Meal Programs and operate sites. Individuals, schools and community organizations can help connect eligible children to Summer Meals. Sites are located in many communities across the country, especially in low-income areas. To find a site near you, call 1-866-348-6479 (English) or 1-877-842-6273 (Spanish). You can also text FOOD (for English) or COMIDA (for Spanish) to 877-877 to find a meal site in your community. #SummerFoodRocks

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During the school year, more than 22 million children receive free and reduced-price breakfast and lunch through the School Breakfast and National School Lunch Programs. But what happens when school lets out? Summer Meal Programs (<http://ow.ly/sQ4qT>) are designed to make sure children can get the nutritious meals they need during the summer months so they're ready to learn when they return to school in the fall. #SummerFoodRocks

For Additional Information

Review these ideas and adopt the strategies that seem reasonable to you and achievable for your Program. The Summer Meals Toolkit has even more creative ideas and resources at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-meals-toolkit>

Do you have more questions? Sponsors and the general public should contact their State agency for answers. State agencies should contact their Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Regional Office.

List of FNS Regional Offices: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns-regional-offices>

List of State Agencies: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/sfsp-contacts>

USDA and its recipient institutions share responsibility for compliance and oversight to ensure good stewardship of Federal funds.

