



## Comparing Programs

How can schools provide meals to students when the regular school year ends? The Summer Food Service Program is ideal for schools that sponsor enrichment, recreational, or activity programs over the summer. Seamless Summer has less paperwork, making it easier for schools to feed children during traditional summer breaks and, for year-round schools, other long school vacation periods. School Meals are available for academic summer schools that intend to serve meals only to enrolled students, following the same rules they follow during the regular school year.

### Take a Closer Look and Compare!

Topic	Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)	National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs (School Meals)	Seamless Summer Option
<b>Times of Operation</b>	May to September for traditional school calendar areas October to April during unanticipated school closures During student vacations for schools on a continuous year calendar	When school is in session, including summer school, as established by the local education agency	Same as SFSP
<b>Meal Service Locations</b>	Schools Camps Churches Community centers Housing projects Libraries Migrant centers Parks Playgrounds Pools Other public sites where children gather	Schools Residential child care institutions (RCCI)	Same as SFSP
<b>Meal Cost for Children</b>	All meals are served free.	Meal cost is based on children's eligibility for free, reduced-price, or paid meal benefits.	Same as SFSP



10/31/16

### Summer Meals Toolkit

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider, Employer and Lender



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<b>Establishing Site Eligibility</b>	<p><u>Open sites</u> located in the attendance area of a school or in a geographic area defined by census data where 50 percent or more of the children qualify for free or reduced-price school meals, and sites are open to the community</p> <p><u>Enrolled sites</u> where 50 percent or more of enrolled children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, determined by approved application or location in an eligible area</p> <p><u>Migrant sites</u> with certification by a migrant organization that the sites serve children of migrant workers</p> <p><u>Camps</u> which offer a regularly scheduled food service as part of an organized program for enrolled children</p>	<p><u>Schools</u>: Public and private non-profit schools of high school grade and under that are part of the State’s education system</p> <p><u>RCCIs</u>: Public and licensed, private non-profit residential child care institutions</p>	Same as SFSP
<b>Approved Type of Meals</b>	<p>Breakfast</p> <p>Lunch</p> <p>Snack (AM or PM)</p> <p>Supper</p> <p>Only camp and migrant sites may be approved to serve both lunch and supper on the same day.</p>	<p>Breakfast</p> <p>Lunch</p> <p>Afterschool snack</p>	Same as SFSP
<b>Maximum Number of Reimbursable Meals</b>	<p>2 meals at open or enrolled sites</p> <p>3 meals at camp or migrant sites</p>	3 meals	Same as SFSP
<b>USDA Foods</b>	1.5 cents per meal for self-prep sites; may also receive bonus foods, as available	31.25 cents per lunch served in school year 2016; may also receive bonus foods, as available	Same as School Meals





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<p><b>Payment Rates</b></p>	<p><b>Calendar Year 2016*</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of meal</th> <th>Self-prep or rural</th> <th>Urban or vended</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Break-fast</td> <td>2.1325</td> <td>2.0925</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lunch or Supper</td> <td>3.7450</td> <td>3.6850</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Snack</td> <td>0.8875</td> <td>0.8650</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*In U.S. dollars for the contiguous States only; rates for Alaska and Hawaii are higher</p>	Type of meal	Self-prep or rural	Urban or vended	Break-fast	2.1325	2.0925	Lunch or Supper	3.7450	3.6850	Snack	0.8875	0.8650	<p><b>School Year 2017*</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of meal</th> <th>Break-fast</th> <th>Lunch</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Paid</td> <td>0.29</td> <td>0.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reduced-price</td> <td>1.41</td> <td>2.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Free</td> <td>1.71</td> <td>3.16</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of meal</th> <th>Snack</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Paid</td> <td>0.07</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reduced-price</td> <td>0.43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Free</td> <td>0.86</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* In U.S. dollars for the contiguous States only; rates for Alaska and Hawaii are higher</p>	Type of meal	Break-fast	Lunch	Paid	0.29	0.30	Reduced-price	1.41	2.76	Free	1.71	3.16	Type of meal	Snack	Paid	0.07	Reduced-price	0.43	Free	0.86	<p>Same as free rates for School Meals</p>
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<p><b>Payment Method</b></p>	<p>Sponsors receive the maximum reimbursement (“meals times rates”) without regard to their actual or budgeted costs.</p> <p>Sponsors may use reimbursements to pay for any allowable operational or administrative cost.</p> <p>Camps are reimbursed only for meals served to eligible children.</p>	<p>School Food Authorities count total meals by type and multiply by the free, reduced-price, or paid rate to claim reimbursement.</p> <p>An extra 6 cents per lunch is added to reimbursement if certified to be in compliance with updated meal patterns</p> <p>Additional payments for free or reduced-price breakfasts in severe need schools</p>	<p>If area eligible, all meals are reimbursed at free rates for School Meals.</p> <p>In camps and closed enrolled sites in non-area eligible locations, meals are reimbursed free and reduced-price School Meal rates, with no reimbursement for paid meals.</p>																																





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<b>Monitoring by Sponsors and School Food Authorities (SFA)</b>	<p>Pre-operational visits before a new or problem site begins serving meals</p> <p>Site visits the first week of operation (waived for sites that operated successfully the previous summer)</p> <p>Site reviews during the first 4 weeks of operation, followed by additional monitoring as needed</p>	<p>Onsite review of lunch counting and claiming system for each school by Feb. 1 of each year</p>	<p>Review of meal counting, claiming and meal pattern compliance at least once during each site's operation</p>
<b>Monitoring by State agency</b>	<p>Review every 3 years; more frequently based on sponsor's size and incidence of prior problems</p>	<p>Administrative reviews every 3 years for School Meal Programs; afterschool programs are reviewed twice a year</p>	<p>Administrative reviews every 5 years; must include one seamless site in an administrative review of a participating SFA</p>
<b>Meal Pattern</b>	<p>Must follow 7 CFR 225.16(d) requirements; however, SFAs may substitute meal patterns for School Meals (under 7 CFR 210.10 and 7 CFR 220.8)</p>	<p>Must meet requirements under 7 CFR 210.10 and 7 CFR 220.8</p>	<p>Same as School Meals</p>
<b>Eligible Participants</b>	<p>Persons 18 years or younger</p> <p>Persons 19 or older with a physical or mental disability, as defined by the State</p>	<p>Students enrolled in a school of high school grade and under, as determined by the State; including persons enrolled in a school program for the mentally or physically disabled and persons under 21 enrolled in an RCCI</p>	<p>Same as SFSP</p>
<b>Public Notification</b>	<p>Media release to announce availability of free meals and nondiscrimination policy</p>	<p>Media release to announce availability of free and reduced-price meals</p>	<p>Plan of how each open site will advertise that free meals are available to children in the community</p>





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<b>Eligible Sponsors</b>	SFAs Local government agencies Private non-profit organizations Universities or colleges Community and faith-based organizations	SFAs	Same as School Meals

### For Additional Information

Review these ideas and adopt the strategies that seem reasonable to you and achievable for your Program. 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>

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