



Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education



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MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS
FROM: DCCECE / HNU
DATE: MARCH 24, 2020
SUBJECT: COVID-19 CACFP Grab & Go Meals for Enrolled Children Only

This is an important notice regarding the recent COVID-19 CACFP Grab & Go Meals for Enrolled Children Only:

Nationwide Waiver to Allow Non-Congregate Feeding in the Child Nutrition Programs

Non-congregate feeding for all programs allows not only for summer meals SFSP to be “Grab & Go” meals but allows for Child Care Centers, Adult Care Centers and After school programs to provide “Grab & Go” meals.

“Grab & Go Meals” must meet the regular menu planning requirements of the Child Nutrition Program. All meals must be unitized, meaning a complete reimbursable meal that meets the requirements of the menu planning method used, including milk, must be distributed. Shelf-stable milk may be used. USDA commodity foods may also be used. If availability of milk or other meal components becomes an issue, FNS will work with the State agency to provide the needed waivers or flexibility.

CACFP sponsors may only claim Grab & Go meals for children enrolled in their program. Programs must claim under Free, Reduced and Paid criteria for these children. Your records must indicate each enrolled child that received a Grab & Go meal. Each plan must include how the program will ensure only meals for enrolled children are billed.

If your program plans to participate in the nationwide waiver, please submit your written plan to all the following individuals:

Thomas Sheppard, Thomas.Sheppard@dhs.arkansas.gov
Pamela Burton, Pamela.Burton.DCCECE@dhs.arkansas.gov
Perry Hunter, Perry.Hunter@dhs.arkansas.gov

All plans will be reviewed, and approval will be granted if they meet waiver requirements. Reminder, you must have approval from the State Agency before you may participate in the program under the Nationwide Waivers.

Please keep this memo on file for quick and easy reference. A copy is also available on the resource library under HNP Mass Alerts and COVID-19 References. If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact your Program Coordinator at: 501-682-8869.