



How Can I Get Started?

If you are interested in seeing that children in your community get free meals this summer, contact the USDA, Food and Nutrition Service at the phone number or email below. The staff will be happy to provide you with additional information.

Joyce Rouba
Summer Meals Program
609-259-5136.

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Please view USDA's website for basic information about the Summer Food Service Program:

www.summerfood.usda.gov

Everyone Wins with Summer Meals!

- All children at seamless sites can get nutritious meals free during non-school months.
- Children have access to healthy eating, time to socialize and physical activity.
- Schools receive money to feed children and can offer a summer meals program without additional paperwork.
- Cafeteria workers and others in the community can be employed during non-school months.
- Children return to school in the fall ready to learn.



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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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United States Department of Agriculture
Food & Nutrition Service



SUMMER Meals for Children in Schools



2016



Do low-income children in your area have enough to eat when schools are not in session?

The vast majority of children in need do not have access to nutritious meals like the ones they receive during the school year.

How can you help?

To feed children during the summer you have three options. You can choose between the:

- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Seamless Summer Option (SSO)
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) for your academic summer school

By participating in any of these programs, you can provide nutritious meals to low-income children during summer months.

What is the Seamless Summer Option?

The Seamless Summer Option (SSO) is an option offered through your state agency.

To encourage school food authorities (SFAs) in areas of need to serve meals during non-school months, this option allows sites to claim all participating children at the free rate while continuing to operate the NSLP and the SBP. Schools who have participated in this option like it so much that they are recommending it to other schools.

Since the Seamless Summer Option provides a seamless transition from the school year into the summer months, it makes serving meals during the summer months easier.

Who can sponsor the Seamless Summer Option?

With the approval of the State agency, public and non-profit private schools can sponsor meal service sites under the Seamless Summer Option.

What is a Meal Service site?

Sponsors may provide free meals at:

- Schools
- Parks and playgrounds
- Community centers
- Migrant sites and residential/non-residential camps
- Faith-based Organizations
- Non-profit private schools

In order for a site to be approved, at least 50 percent of the children in the area it serves, or 50 percent of its enrolled children, **must** be eligible for free or reduced price school meals. All children in the community must be able to attend or enroll in sites.

Most sites may serve up to **two meals daily**: breakfast, lunch or dinner, or snacks. Camps and migrant sites may serve up to three meals daily.

How do I provide a meal service?

Most sponsors will follow the same method used during the school year. Meals can be prepared onsite, purchased from another district or from a commercial meal vendor.

How is the Seamless Summer Option financed?

Sponsors earn the “free” Federal reimbursement rate for each meal served. Rates change annually and new rates go into effect on July 1 each year.

SSO and academic summer school rates from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 are:

Per Meal Rates	Regular	Bonus/Severe Need
Breakfast	\$ 1.66	\$1.99
Lunch/Supper	\$ 3.07	\$3.13
Snack	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.84

*For lunch, school food authorities’ meeting dietary guidelines receive additional reimbursement.

The SFSP reimbursement rates for the summer of 2016 are:

For meals served at rural or self-preparation sites	
Breakfast	\$2.1325
Lunch/Supper	\$3.7450
Snack	\$0.8875
For meals served at other types of sites	
Breakfast	\$2.0925
Lunch/Supper	\$3.6850
Snack	\$0.8650