

Nutrition News

Summer Food Service Program



September 9, 2020

Thank You SFSP Sponsors!

Right Click Below to View a Message from Director of Nutrition Services, Tamika Boone



Give Us Your Feedback!

End-of-the-Season SFSP Survey: Respond by October 1!

DECAL's Nutrition Services Division appreciates your participation in the 2020 Emergency Feeding and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

To better understand your experience as an SFSP sponsor, we have created an end-of-season survey. Your collected responses may be submitted anonymously, and we will use the information to ensure we are providing you the resources needed to actively and efficiently participate in the SFSP. Please [click here](#) to participate in the survey. Please respond by October 1, 2020.



Again, thank you for your commitment to serving children free and healthy meals during the summer months!

COVID-19 Resources for Sponsors & Institutions

FAQs: Serving Meals during Unanticipated School Closures

Answers to frequently asked questions regarding serving meals during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SFSP: Providing Multiple Meals at a Time for Children During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

Nationwide Waivers:

DECAL Participation of Nationwide Waivers Due to COVID-19

For full details, please click on the links to read the actual waiver memo, or [click here](#) for a complete list of the Nationwide Waivers due to COVID-19.

Nationwide Waiver to Allow SFSP & SSO Operations through December 2020

This waiver allows the SFSP & SSO to continue to operate through December 2020.

****Waiver is effective until December 31, 2020****

Area Eligibility

Allows Program operators to locate Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) open sites in areas that do not meet area eligibility requirements. ****Waiver extended until December 31, 2020****

Closed Enrolled Eligibility

Under this waiver, for all States, Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option (SSO) closed enrolled sites during the COVID-19 public health emergency may determine site eligibility through area eligibility without collecting income eligibility applications. ****Waiver extended until December 31, 2020****

First Week Site Visits

FNS waives, for all States, the requirement that Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors are required to visit each of their sites at least once during the first week of operation. (2) This waiver applies to State agencies administering and local organizations that have operated the SFSP successfully in the previous year, and SFSP sponsors in good standing that have successfully participated in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) or the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). ****Waiver extended until December 31, 2020****

Meal Pattern Flexibilities

The requirement to serve meals that meet the meal pattern requirements is waived during the public health emergency. ****Waiver extended until December 31, 2020****

Meal Times Waiver

This waiver allows program operators the flexibility to adjust the times meals and snacks are provided in order to streamline operations. ****Waiver extended until December 31, 2020****

Non-congregate Feeding

The requirement that meals be served in a congregate setting and must be consumed by participants on site is waived during the public health emergency. ****Waiver extended until December 31, 2020****

Parent Pick-up

Under this waiver, program operators in a state with an approved waiver allowing non-congregate meal distribution during COVID-19-related operations may distribute meals to a

parent or guardian to take home to their eligible children. ****Waiver extended until December 31, 2020****

Onsite Monitoring Waiver for Sponsors

For sponsors only - FNS waives that SFSP monitoring requirements included at 7 CFR 225.15(d) be conducted on site. ****Waiver extended until September 30, 2021****

FSMC Contract Waiver During SFSP

For SFSP FSMCs only - Waiver allows Sponsors utilizing Food Service Management Companies to enter into a one-year noncompetitive procurement contract during SFSP FY20. ****Waiver is effective until September 30, 2020****

Important Reminders:

Emergency Feeding officially ended June 30, 2020. Therefore, CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Center operations and milk flexibilities expired June 30, 2020. *At-Risk Afterschool Care Centers may begin operations at the start of the affirmed FY 2021 school calendar year.*

If you were previously approved for a SFSP only waiver, but would like to continue utilizing the waiver in your CACFP operations, please submit a request to utilize the waiver for the CACFP. Similarly, if you were previously approved for a CACFP only waiver but wish to utilize the waiver in your SFSP operations, a SFSP waiver request is required.

Waiver requests can be submitted to [Leslie Truman](#). Waiver request forms that were previously approved for both CACFP and SFSP do not need to be re-submitted.

For any waiver-related questions, please contact [Sonja Adams](#).

Are You Ready To Respond?

Indicate your interest in serving meals during disasters situations



Natural disasters, such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods, can be devastating to communities and require a quick response.

Sponsors who operate the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) can help minimize meal disruptions for families who have been impacted by disasters.

If you are willing to operate emergency feeding sites during disaster situations, please indicate your interest by checking "Yes" for question 40 on the institution application under "Miscellaneous Questions." (See below)

Miscellaneous Questions

38. Type of Audit Required:

39. Does your organization operate nutrition programs in any other state(s)? Yes No

Organization Name	State Name	CACFP	SFSP
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

40. Would your organization be able and willing to operate emergency feeding sites during disaster situations? Yes No

If yes, what counties would be served?

[More Lines](#)

To help your organization prepare, DECAL is providing guidance on Disaster Preparedness applicable to organizations participating in SFSP.

Here you can find:

- [Flexibility Approvals for Continuing or Restoring Meal Service for Children and Adults](#)
- [Action Steps to Request Flexibility or Waiver](#)
- [CACFP Menu Planning Template](#)
- [SFSP Menu Planning Template](#)
- [Food Safety Guidance](#)

DECAL's disaster policy memorandum can be found on our website and accessed [here](#).

Is Your Organization Interested in Participating in the At-Risk Afterschool Meals Component of CACFP?

Summer meals sponsors and sites can provide meals throughout the year by operating the CACFP Afterschool Meals Program. If you are interested, please join Nutrition Services for our Virtual **At-Risk Afterschool Orientation and Program Training Session**.

Course Description

This training will provide:

- An Overview of the Georgia Dept. of Early Care and Learning, Bright from the Start
- Requirements on Program Eligibility
- Menu Planning
- Meal Patterns
- Recordkeeping
- Training
- Monthly Claim Submission and Civil Rights Compliance



Training is offered to eligible afterschool programs that provide educational or enrichment activities that are open to all children in an organized, structured and supervised setting.

There are no specific requirements for the types of educational or enrichment activities that an afterschool program can offer, examples include:

- Homework Assistance
- Life Skills

- Remedial Education
- Organized Fitness Actives and/or Arts and Crafts

Program Requirements: License or Exemption

Afterschool programs **MUST** have a license or exemption in order to participate in the At-Risk Afterschool Meals.

Available Resources:

- [License Application](#)
- [Exemption Application](#)
- [Child Care Learning Center Information](#)



For more information, contact CCS at **404.657.5562**.

If you have questions or are interested in registering for training, please contact [Leslie Truman](#) at **404.657.1779**

Budgeting for SFSP

Annual Year End Reconciliation Notice



Emergency Feeding & Traditional SFSP or Traditional SFSP Only: Due October 31

Institutions operating Emergency Feeding and Traditional SFSP or only Traditional SFSP must complete an Annual Year End Reconciliation Form. The form should include all operating months from March-August. The combined Emergency Feeding and Traditional SFSP or Traditional SFSP reconciliation form and final bank statement/general ledger must be submitted to DECAL no later than **October 31, 2020**.

For the Annual Year End Reconciliation Form, [click here](#). Submit the form via email to [Shonda Franklin](#), as well as any questions about the budget process.

Procurement News

Procurement Tips

As the school year resumes and you prepare for the possibility of extending SFSP through 2020 for your institution, now is a great time to begin contract/agreement and vendor maintenance procedures. These procedures are beneficial as they present an opportunity for you to determine whether the vendors and suppliers used to provide meals or individual food items is a responsible and responsive vendor.

Now that USDA has extended the Summer Food Service Program through December 31, 2020, it is important to review your contract in order to determine if the value of your contract can be modified to add additional meals or food items as well to determine by what percentage the contract can be modified.

If you have an informal agreement in place with a vendor, now is also the time to execute an additional agreement for the increase in food costs you may experience.

When making this determination, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Were deliveries made on time?
2. Did the vendor communicate any perceived challenges with food shortages, missed or late deliveries, etc.
3. Were invoices and packing slips received from the vendor in a timely manner?
4. If individual food items were not delivered, did the vendor provide substitutions or alternate products?
5. Were meals delivered at the correct temperature?



Procurement + COVID19

USDA has recently launched a [resource hub](#) for Local Food System Response to COVID19. The resource hub includes [16 partnering organizations](#) who have worked to provide information such social distancing at Farmer's Markets, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Innovations and much more.

If you are looking for more information on local foods in response to COVID19, please check out this [valuable resource](#).

Local Sourcing Spotlight: *Going Nuts for Peanuts!*



Did you know the peanut is the number one state crop here in Georgia? According to Georgia Grown, bringing in more than [\\$625 million in revenue in 2018](#), the peanut has earned this title. Producing more than half of the United States' peanuts annually, Georgia is responsible for producing upwards of 2 billion pounds of peanuts with growers in about 70 local Georgia counties.

Where to buy?

Whether you enjoy them boiled, dry roasted or with just a little salt, Georgia has an array of peanut farmers to choose from. Growing peanuts since 1945, the next time you are in middle Georgia visit [Hardy Farms](#) for your choice of boiled, roasted or green peanuts.

For questions regarding procurement, please contact [LaMonika Jones](#), Procurement Compliance Officer.

Get Ready to Turnip the Volume with Georgia Organics!

We're thrilled to announce that sign-ups for this year's [October Farm to School Month](#) campaign are now open!

When you sign up, you will receive access to an online toolkit filled with turnip-themed activities, standards-based lessons, recipes, and more from the [Georgia Organics Farm to School](#) team.

Whether at home or in a classroom, these resources are suited for teachers, community educators, and homeschooling parents alike. Added bonus? The first 300 individuals to sign up will be mailed seeds, washable tattoos, and our school garden planting and harvest calendar!



[Click here](#) to learn more about October Farm to School month and sign up today!

Nutrition Ed Nook

Harvest of the Month: Apples



Bite into your first apple of the season and *crunch* the sound and feel of fall is upon us as we celebrate apples as the Harvest of the Month (**English** and **Spanish**) item.

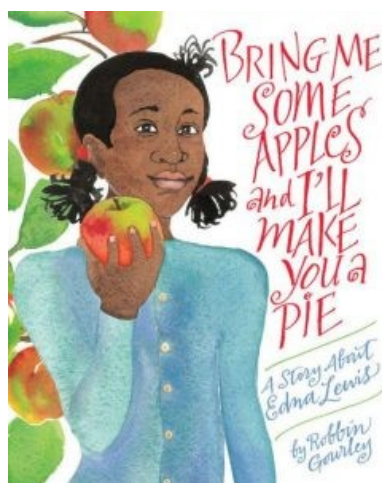
Apples are high in fiber and vitamin C and add a sweet crisp to any added dish. Enjoy biting into apples together at the same time to see how loud of a crunch your class can make!

Integration

- **Easy Apple Coleslaw**
- **Homemade Applesauce**
- **Baked Batatas and Apples**

Education

- Perform a taste test with your classroom – enjoy Granny Smith, Red Delicious, Pink Lady, Gala and other apple varieties!
- Read **“Bring Me Some Apples and I’ll Make You a Pie: A Story About Edna Lewis”** by **Robbin Gourley**
- Watch **“A is for Apples”** from Small Bites Adventure Club



Conversation

- What color apples have children tried? (red, pink, green, yellow)
- What sound does an apple make when you bite into it?

Share your apple infused stories with Nutrition Health Educator, **Diana Myers, MS, RD, LD!**

Harvest of the Month Bonus Item: Peanuts



Did you know that peanuts are Georgia’s official state crop? In fact, **according to UGA Extension**, Georgia is the number one producer of peanuts in the United States! Georgia

peanut farmers provide more than 45 percent of the U.S. peanut crop each year. Peanuts are an excellent plant-based protein source to add a power packed nutritional punch to your meal pattern.

**When serving peanuts on your menu, be sure to check with children's allergies as peanuts are one of the top eight most common allergens. Restrictions: Peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones and grapes shall not be served to the children under three (3) years of age.*

Integration

- **Georgia Grown Peanut Hummus**
- Noodles with Peanut Butter Sauce
- Whole grain toast with peanut butter & banana

DECAL's Nutrition Division Welcomes New Marketing & Outreach Specialist: Gaby Garza



DECAL's Nutrition Division welcomes Gaby Garza as its new Marketing & Outreach Specialist! In this role, Gaby will be responsible for producing child nutrition newsletters, social media and will assist with the recruitment and retention of sponsors and institutions.

With a Media Production degree, Gaby has worked as a legal videographer & editor, social media coordinator, as well as completed four broadcast and marketing internships at NBC & PBS affiliates while at the University of Houston.

She is passionate about all things media and most of all, helping others. As a native Houstonian, Gaby is excited and proud to call Atlanta her new home with her family.

NEW Episode of DECAL Download "S.O.L.V.E. Program"

On the next ...

DECAL
Download 
New Episodes Every Wednesday!

This Week's Guests



Amy M. Jacobs
Commissioner of Georgia Department of
Early Care and Learning



Elisabetta Kasfir
Deputy Commissioner of CAPS Program

For some families, virtual learning presents yet another challenge during the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents who may be working or in school need to find care for their children while they participate in distance learning. If you are a parent with school age children ages 5 to 12 in a public school using all virtual learning, DECAL may have some financial assistance for you to help pay for childcare. It's called the **SOLVE** Program, which stands for **Supporting Onsite Learning for Virtual Education**.

Joining us to talk about the SOLVE Program and how families can apply is Elisabetta Kasfir, Deputy Director for the CAPS Program here at DECAL, and of course

This Week's Topic:
S.O.L.V.E. Program

Commissioner Jacobs who has been working with the Governor's Office to design and launch this program for children and families here in Georgia.

Stay tuned for this week's water cooler question and the DECAL Download Quiz for your chance to win a nice prize!

Have an idea for a future topic? [E-mail us](#).

You can find DECAL Download [here](#) or on Apple Podcasts, Google Play, Spotify, Stitcher, TuneIn, Overcast, and more!



**Georgia Dept
of Early Care
and Learning**

BRIGHT FROM THE START

Nutrition Division
Marketing & Outreach Team

Cindy Kicklighter

Gaby Garza

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Nondiscrimination Statement: English

Nondiscrimination Statement: Spanish

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