

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Free Meals Policy Statement for Pricing Programs

Summer 2024

Agreement number: _____

Federal regulations require the following statement of assurance from each sponsor to be determined eligible to participate in the SFSP. This letter must be signed and returned to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) prior to the sponsor's program opening date.

The SFSP sponsor, _____, hereby assures the Connecticut State Department of Education that, in accordance with U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations for the SFSP 7 CFR 225.6(c)(4), the sponsor agrees:

- A. To serve summer meals free to children from families who provide a valid Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) case number or Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) case number on the application, or whose income is at or below the reduced-price scale of the USDA's Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEGs).
- B. To collect payment from children who pay the full price of the meal while preventing overt identification of children receiving free summer meals.
- C. To establish a hearing a hearing procedure for families wishing to appeal a denial of an application for free summer meals. The hearing procedure complies with the requirements set forth in 7 CFR 225.6(c)(5).
- D. To continue to provide free summer meals to a child whose family requests a hearing until a decision is rendered.
- E. To prevent overt identification of free summer meal recipients and no discrimination against any child on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in the course of food service.

Signature of authorized representative
(as indicated on ED-099 Agreement): _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

This form must be returned as part of the annual application process. For questions, please contact the [Summer Meals Staff](#), Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

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For information on the SFSP, visit the CSDE's [SFSP webpage](#) or contact the [Summer Meals staff](#) at the CSDE's Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841. This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SFSP/Free_Meals_Policy_Statement_Pricing_Programs_SFSP.pdf.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

The Connecticut State Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Connecticut Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race; color; religious creed; age; sex; pregnancy; sexual orientation; workplace hazards to reproductive systems, gender identity or expression; marital status; national origin; ancestry; retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, intellectual disability; genetic information; learning disability; physical disability (including, but not limited to, blindness); mental disability (past/present history thereof); military or veteran status; status as a victim of domestic violence; or criminal record in state employment, unless there is a bona fide occupational qualification excluding persons in any of the aforementioned protected classes. Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Attorney Louis Todisco, Connecticut State Department of Education, by mail 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT 06103-1841; or by telephone 860-713-6594; or by email louis.todisco@ct.gov.

