



## Indiana SFSP Policy 2024-01 Performance Standards and Good Standing

**Purpose:** To clarify federal “performance standards” and “good standing” requirements for agencies and organizations applying for SFSP sponsorship in Indiana or current SFSP institutions that request to add additional sites and/or operate non-congregate (NC) meal service sites.

**Scope:** Institutions currently sponsoring Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or new agencies and organizations applying to sponsor SFSP.

**Description:** To be approved as an Indiana sponsor in the **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** and/or to add additional sites and/or to have sites approved to participate in rural non-congregate meal service, current and newly applying institutions must demonstrate compliance with performance standards in their management plan.

**Performance Standards (VCA):** The term “VCA” stands for **viability, capability, and accountability**. An institution must demonstrate compliance with the following performance standards as outlined in 7 CFR 225.6(d):

- **Performance Standard 1 - Financial Viability and Management:** The institution must have sound financial practices and management.
- **Performance Standard 2 - Administrative Capability:** The institution must be capable of effectively administering the program.
- **Performance Standard 3 - Internal Controls for Program Accountability:** The institution must have robust internal controls to ensure program integrity.

**Active sponsors demonstrate the above performance standards through Compliance Reviews:**

- An institution’s standing is evaluated based on its compliance review by the **state agency**.
- Good standing **means the status of a program operator that meets its SFSP responsibilities, is current with its financial obligations, and, if applicable, has fully implemented all corrective actions within the required time. Good standing** is achieved if the institution has:
  - No major program violations.
  - Submitted acceptable corrective action within timeframes outlined in state agency correspondence.
  - Fully demonstrate implementation of all corrective actions from the last compliance review, including actions outlined in its serious deficiency corrective action plan (if applicable).

SFSP Sponsors who are unable to demonstrate that corrective action has been fully implemented due to the end of summer programming must demonstrate the corrective action in the following SFSP season prior to being approved to operate a non-congregate site.

In summary, a SFA (School Food Authority) or SFSP institution is in good standing when it adheres to program requirements, maintains financial stability, and effectively manages program operations. This ensures the integrity and success of these vital food assistance programs.

**Sources:** Indiana Department of Education, School and Community Nutrition Programs  
USDA Regulations: [Guidance on Performance Standards, Budgets, and Management Plans in the Summer Food Service Program | Food and Nutrition Service \(usda.gov\)](#)