



Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Fact Sheet

What is the purpose of the SFSP? The intent of the SFSP is to serve nutritious meals in areas identified as high-need during the summer months when school is not in session. The program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE).

Who can be a sponsor for the SFSP? Program sponsors may include public or private non-profit school food authorities, local governments, universities, and private non-profit organizations. Sponsoring agencies must demonstrate administrative and financial capability and are required to follow federal regulations. Many school sponsors reach beyond their buildings to operate meal sites in their local community where children may gather during the summer.

Who is eligible to receive free SFSP meals? All children aged 18 or younger and individuals with disabilities over the age of 18 who are enrolled in K-12 school program are eligible to receive free SFSP meals. Most sponsors may serve up to two meals per day. Camp sponsors may claim reimbursement for up to three meals per day for qualifying children.

What is a site? A site is a physical location where the meals are served during an approved meal service time. Meals may be served in a variety of settings, including schools, playgrounds, churches, and apartment complexes.

Ways local school corporations can participate:

- Sponsor and operate meal service sites within the schools and local community locations
- Instead of administering or supervising a meal service site, provide meals to local agencies who apply for sponsorship. For example, a local YMCA may contract with a school corporation for the meals served to participants enrolled in their summer program

Ways other organizations can participate:

- Collaborate with a local school food authority to operate a meal site under their sponsorship
- Provide educational or recreational programming to children at the meal sites
- Assist with outreach efforts to promote program availability
- Become a program sponsor in underserved areas where schools are currently not operating SFSP

SFSP reimbursement: IDOE reimburses sponsors on a per-meal basis for meals served to eligible children. Reimbursement is designed to cover both operating and administrative costs. Payment [rates](#) are updated annually and differ based on the preparation method the sponsor is using. Vended sponsors receive lower reimbursement rates for administrative expenses.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.