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Commissioner

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Department of Education  
and Early Development

Juneau, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **DEED Announces Alaska Agencies Providing Free Meals to Children**

JUNEAU -- The Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), Child Nutrition Programs, announces the participation of Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) agencies in Alaska to provide meals free of charge to enrolled children without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. You can find a list of CACFP agencies on the [Alaska CACFP website](#).

These non-profit, for-profit, or governmental agencies include child care centers, adult day care centers, Head Start programs, emergency shelters, at-risk afterschool and outside school hour care centers, and family day care home providers. These agencies receive funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) CACFP. DEED's Child Nutrition Programs staff oversee all aspects of this program.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: [How to File a Complaint](#) or at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by mail to the USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax to (202) 690-7442, or by email to [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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*The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development provides information, resources, and leadership to support over 130,000 students in 505 public schools across the state of Alaska. The mission of the department is to ensure an "Excellent Education for Every Student Every Day."*

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