To: CACFP Agencies
CACFP Program Reviewers

From: Ann-Marie Martin
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Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos and Technical Assistance Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance and compliance with the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Programs office if you need further clarification.

USDA Policy Memos

1. CACFP 13-2015 Statements Supporting Accommodations for Children with Disabilities in the Child Nutrition Programs
2. CACFP 14-2015 Infant Feeding in the CACFP
3. CACFP 15-2015 Allowable Costs Related to Physical Activity and Limiting the Use Of Electronic Media in the Child and Adult Care Food Program
5. CACFP 17-2015 Voluntary Menu Labeling in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program

Bulletin Topics

6. Claim Reimbursement Timelines for May and June
7. Updating Vendor Information in the new statewide Integrated Resource Information System (IRS)
8. High Five Stickers Available through USDA Team Nutrition
10. Office of Administration for Children and Families Resources

1. CACFP 13-2015 Statements Supporting Accommodations for Children with Disabilities in the Child Nutrition Programs

The purpose of this memorandum is to expand the list of acceptable medical professionals that may sign a medical statement for meal accommodations in the Child Nutrition Programs and recommend alternate foods for children whose disability restricts their diets. A broader list of medical providers will improve access to meal accommodations for children with special dietary needs while balancing the administrative burden placed on program operators and participants requesting meal accommodations.
In the state of Alaska a medical authority is such as a licensed physician, physician’s assistant, or nurse practitioner may now sign the form for either disability or for special meal accommodations due to food intolerance(s) or other medical reasons.

Please find the updated Medical Statement on the CNP Bulletins page: http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html

2. **CACFP 14-2015 Infant Feeding in the CACFP**
The purpose of this memorandum is to consolidate, clarify, and provide additional guidance on infant formula and meal requirements in the CACFP. It extends the length of time refrigerated breastmilk may be stored at a center or day care home, updates guidance on creditable infant formulas, allows centers and day care homes to serve infant foods containing DHA, and addresses frequently asked questions.

3. **CACFP 15-2015 Allowable Costs Related to Physical Activity and Limiting the Use Of Electronic Media in the Child and Adult Care Food Program**
The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance on the use of the CACFP funds for training and TA related to promotion of physical activity and limiting the use of electronic media. The guidance applies to the use of sponsoring organization administrative funds, facility nonprofit food service account funds, and State Administrative Expense (SAE) funds. It includes Question and Answers.

The Offices of Management and Budget (OMG) published the Super-Circular at 78 FR 78590 on December 26, 2013 and apply to new Federal awards made on or after December 26, 2014. Since the CACFP funds are appropriated on an annual basis the new rules will be applied with the new program year starting in October 2015. Subpart F of the Super Circular pertains to Audit Requirements and is an exception to the implementation schedule. It will apply to audits of fiscal years beginning on or after December 26, 2014 so most will cover audits for calendar year 2015 or fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015. The new threshold for required audits is $750,000 total expended federal funds for the agency.

These changes will effect procurement practices and changes to the EED procurement webpage are forthcoming. This will also be a topic at the annual fall CACFP training.

5. **CACFP 17-2015 Voluntary Menu Labeling in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program**
A new FDA rule (79 FR 71155) requires restaurants and retail store operators to print a calorie statement on menus for all standard menu items. They also must make available, upon request, nutrition information for 11 nutrients for these menu items. The rule becomes effective December 1, 2015.

Child Nutrition Program operators under NSLP, CACFP and SFSP are excluded from this new rule, but may voluntarily implement similar initiatives. There are resource links in the policy memo if schools or agencies are interested in developing and implementing a menu calorie labeling program.

6. **Claim Reimbursement Timelines for May and June**
The State of Alaska is upgrading to a new, statewide, procurement and financial system, called IRIS (Integrated Resource Information System). In order to get timely reimbursement for your May claim you must submit in the CNP database by June 19th, otherwise you will experience a delay in receiving your payment. As always, the State of Alaska will also be finishing out the state fiscal year ending June 30th so the June and July payments may be delayed as well due to the changeover to IRIS and year-end closeout.
7. Updating Vendor Information in the new statewide Integrated Resource Information System (IRS)

Starting in July of 2015, the State of Alaska will be upgrading to a new, statewide, procurement and financial system, called IRIS (Integrated Resource Information System).

IRIS will bring changes to how the State works with the vendor community. The most apparent change will be an online Vendor Self Service (VSS) portal, where you can easily manage your account information, track payments and other financial transactions, as well as submit bids and proposals. In addition to being able to manage your own information including registration and on-going account maintenance, VSS also provides:

- Increased visibility into the State of Alaska’s procurement activities
- Real-time access to bidding opportunities, payment status, notice of awards, and reprints of historical 1099 forms
- Registration for notifications based on commodity codes relevant to the goods and/or services you provide

Join the IRIS Vendor Information listserv to receive updates from the IRIS Project team regarding VSS. To sign up or for more information please visit: [http://doa.alaska.gov/dof/iris/vendor.html](http://doa.alaska.gov/dof/iris/vendor.html)

Since current agencies are active vendors with the State of Alaska, your contact information will be automatically converted to IRIS. In June 2015, you will receive a notification containing a vendor ID, unique registration code and instructions on how to activate and update your account.

All vendors must be registered in VSS before entering into a contract, purchases can be made or invoices submitted. During registration, vendors can opt to receive hard copy notifications, however we strongly encourage you to take advantage of the benefits of VSS.

If you do not have internet access, you can contact the IRIS Help Desk to have a State resource update your account information in IRIS on your behalf. The Help Desk will be available July 1, 2015. For assistance with the IRIS please contact the IRIS Project team at [IRIS.Project@alaska.gov](mailto:IRIS.Project@alaska.gov)

8. High Five Stickers Available through USDA Team Nutrition

Schools, child care providers, and summer meal sites participating in one of the USDA Child Nutrition programs may request up to 3 free rolls of 200 High Five stickers via Team Nutrition at [http://tn.ntis.gov/](http://tn.ntis.gov/). Please share with your networks!

#GimmeFive food groups!

High Five Stickers Now Available!

- Give these stickers to children you spot eating a healthy lunch.
- Give stickers to kids that choose foods from the 5 food groups.
- Encourage kids to make a MyPlate meal!

Schools, child care providers, and summer meal sites participating in one of the USDA Child Nutrition programs may request up to 3 free rolls of 200 High Five stickers by completing our online order form at [http://tn.ntis.gov/](http://tn.ntis.gov/). The stickers are listed under Posters and Other Materials.
If you’re looking for training for your cooks please check out the training courses and videos on the NFSMI website: http://www.nfsmi.org/Templates/TemplateDefault.aspx?qs=cElEPTIzOA==

10. Office of Administration for Children and Families Resources
The Office of the Administration for Children and Families has a very good website with resources for child care at: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system
By clicking the Early Head Start category you will find many good resources to help the children, families and your staff.

Resources for smooth transitions from pre-kindergarten to kindergarten. Please go to the website: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/teaching/transition to view or download a video that you can show the children transitioning to kindergarten. It highlights children telling what it is like to move up to kindergarten.

Resources for teacher development are also linked to this site and you can view the webinars either live or after-the-fact as they post them on Teacher Time. Go to the following link and then click on the middle box for Teacher Time.
http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/teaching/development

Resources for child development can be found under the Early Head Start heading at http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/ehsnrc/cde

Resources for working with children with disabilities can be found at http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/teaching/Disabilities

![Team Nutrition](image)

Nutrition and Wellness Tips for Young Children: Provider Handbook for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Tip sheets and other resources for child care providers on:

- Building a healthy plate with fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and beans
- Encouraging physical activity and active play
- Limiting screen time
- Food safety and more!


The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA, PL 111-296) required sweeping changes to the USDA Child Nutrition Programs, including the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The Act expanded the purpose of CACFP to promote health and wellness in child care settings and mandated the USDA to provide training and technical assistance to help child care centers and family or group day care homes comply with current nutrition, physical activity, and electronic media use recommendations.

In 2013, USDA contracted for research in the areas of nutrition, physical activity, and electronic media use. The purpose of the research was to determine perceived challenges in implementing recommendations in the three areas, the corresponding training and technical assistance needs, and preferred delivery formats of training and resources. Read the study findings on the Alaska CACFP Bulletin page: [http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html](http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html)


Menu planning is the foundation for healthy eating in child care settings. This month’s Mealtime Memo focuses on sodium as well as a nutrition tip, a nutrition fact, and information about the fruit of the month – Pineapple. You can find the memo in English and Spanish at the following website: [http://www.nfsmi.org/ResourceOverview.aspx?ID=526](http://www.nfsmi.org/ResourceOverview.aspx?ID=526) and also on the CACFP Bulletins webpage: [http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html](http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html).
Contact Information

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Commonly Used Acronyms

CACFP – Child and Adult Care Food Program
CNP – Child Nutrition Programs
FNS – Food & Nutrition Services
FNSRO-Food & Nut Services Reg. Office
USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture
LEA – Local Education Authority
DEC – Department of Conservation

All attachments for this bulletin can be found on the State of Alaska Child Nutrition Programs, CACFP Bulletins page: [http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html](http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html).

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Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800)845-6136 (Spanish).

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