

**Summer Food Service Program**



# Program Bulletin

***Child Nutrition Programs***

***Finance & Support Services***

*P.O. Box 110500*

*Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500*

*Phone (907) 465-4788*

**To:** SFSP Sponsors

Program Reviewers

**From:** Ann Schmid

Program Specialist

**Date:** April 5, 2019

**Bulletin:** 2019-5

**Subject:** USDA Policy Memos and Information

**USDA Policy Memos, Information, and Guidance:**

* USDA Request for Comments on SFSP Administration Study
* [SFSP 01-2019, Summer Food Service Program Memoranda Rescission](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/sfsp/SFSP01-2019os.pdf)
* Alaska Waiver Requests Have Been Approved

**Additional Topics:**

* Have You Planned a SFSP Kick-off Event?
* Reminder! 2019 SFSP Annual Training
* May 1 Application Deadline
* 2019 Turnip the Beet Awards
* Upcoming Webinars

**Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance, and compliance with the Summer Food Service Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Programs office if you need further clarification.**

## USDA Policy Memos, Information, and Guidance:

### USDA Request for Comments

The USDA is requesting comments from SFSP stakeholders concerning how the USDA should conduct a study of how the SFSP is administered. They need your input so that the study is designed correctly, your time is not wasted and the end product of the study is useful. Please consider responding to this request for comments from the USDA. You may do so by visiting the [USDA Request for Comments page](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/03/07/2019-04090/agency-information-collection-activities-proposed-collection-comments-request-summer-food-service)

### SFSP 01-2019

[Summer Food Service Program Memoranda Rescission](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/sfsp/SFSP01-2019os.pdf)

All four of the waivers Alaska had requested from the USDA have been approved. The waiver requests may be found on our website under the [Public Notification section of our SFSP website.](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp/sfsp) As stated previously, the waiver requests approvals include some record keeping requirements for sponsors who operate under the waivers. We will continue to work closely with the USDA in the coming weeks to clarify exactly what information they will require and how we can best communicate those requirements to SFSP sponsors.

## Additional Topics

### Plan a SFSP Kick-off Event!

One great thing about living in Alaska is that there’s a fairly good chance you know someone kind of famous in your community that you could ask to help spread the word about summer meal sites. Well-known locals can be excellent special guests at SFSP kick-off events. Maybe a local musher could run some dogs through a ribbon to officially open up a site? Or a mayor could join the kids for lunch on the first day? High school athletes could help serve a meal. Kick-off events are a great way to attract more kids to your sites!

### Reminder! 2019 SFSP Annual Training

Annual Training is *required* for all new and returning sponsors of the Summer Food Service Program. The following training dates will be offered this spring:

* Face-to-face training for all new and returning sponsors will be held in Anchorage on **Tuesday, April 16th** from 8:30AM-4:30PM at the ACS Business Technology Center at 600 E 36th Ave.
* Distance training via WebEx for all non-school sponsors, new and returning, will be held on **Tuesday, April 23rd** from 9:00AM-12:00PM.
* Distance training via WebEx for all school district sponsors, new and returning, will be held on **Thursday, April 25th** from 1:00PM-3:00PM.

Please e-mail Dan Hysell (dan.hysell@alaska.gov) for a registration form and submit it back to him as soon as possible. WebEx login and dial-in information will be sent via email prior to the training date(s).

### May 1 Application Deadline

All SFSP application materials must be submitted by **May 1, 2019** or 30 days prior to beginning operations (whichever comes first). Meals served prior to the approval of an application are not reimbursable. Please inform your applicable staff of this deadline and begin the application process early.

### Turnip the Beet Awards

Each summer the USDA recognizes exceptional SFSP sponsors with the Turnip the Beet Awards. Are you going the extra mile to provide kids at your sites with exceptionally nutritious and appetizing summer meals? Are you serving local or culturally appropriate foods at your sites? Do you hold taste tests so that kids can be a part of meal planning? If so then the USDA wants to know and possibly give you an award! You may find more information at the [USDA Turnip the Beet website.](https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/turnip-the-beet)

### Upcoming Webinars

[No Kid Hungry](http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars/core-summer-meals-strategies-overcome-transportation-barriers) - **Core Summer Meals Strategies to Overcome Transportation Barriers**

Thu, Apr 11, 2019 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM AKDT

Join No Kid Hungry and an expert from the social enterprise sector as they explore key success factors impacting mobile meals and the effective delivery of summer meals programming. This interactive session will help attendees identify the big questions that can help guide a solutions-based approach to transportation barriers. Furthermore, attendees will explore both the effectiveness and sustainability of common transportation solutions as well as alternative delivery options that may be useful at low-volume sites or highly remote areas. The webinar will also include a presentation of No Kid Hungry’s updated Mobile Meals Toolkit and dedicated time for a discussion of specific challenges attendees have encountered in their communities. Register for this webinar online by visiting our [Webinar Registration](http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars/core-summer-meals-strategies-overcome-transportation-barriers).

**Contact Information**Ann Schmid, Program Specialist

Ann Schmid (ann.schmid@alaska.gov)

(907) 465-4788

Dan Hysell, Education Program Assistant

Dan Hysell (dan.hysell@alaska.gov)

(907) 465-4969

**Commonly Used Acronyms**

SFSP – Summer Food Service Program

CNP – Child Nutrition Programs

WRO – Western Region Office
FNS – Food & Nutrition Services

FNSRO-Food & Nut. Services Reg. Office
USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture

EED – Education & Early Development

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(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

1400 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: USDA Complaint Email (program.intake@usda.gov).

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