

To: Food Service Directors, Authorized Representatives, and Claim Contacts for School Nutrition Programs

From: Kayte Partch, Director, Child Nutrition Programs

For those of you already participating in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), thank you! You know how difficult it is for some of our families to absorb additional meal costs when school is not in session. Children in these families may be at greater risk for hunger and malnutrition over the summer which would put them at a disadvantage when they return to school in August or September. We appreciate everything you do to support this program.

For those of you who may not yet be participating in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), we would encourage you to contact us for more information. There is still time to plan for and receive approval to operate the SFSP for summer 2025. The SFSP is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (an equal opportunity provider and employer) and is administered by the Nebraska Department of Education Office of Coordinated Student Support Services.

Rural locations may be eligible to provide non-congregate meal service, which allows alternate service models such as grab and go, curbside, drive thru, walk up, or delivery to serve individual or multi-day meals to children making accessing meals in Nebraska's most rural locations more feasible. Please contact a [NDE Nutrition Services SFSP Specialist](#) with questions about this option.

All School Food Authorities are required to promote the SFSP even if they do not participate in the program. Please use this sample language to promote the SFSP using your usual communication method and channels with households (i.e., newsletter, school website):

*The USDA's Summer Food Service Program provides no-cost meals to children ages 1- 18 years at approved locations across the state. To find information about summer meals sites near you, visit the [SFSP Site Finder](#). *Please note: The Nebraska SFSP sites will be available in the Summer Meals Site Finder after the NDE approves site locations, which will be on approximately May 25, 2025.*

For School Food Authorities that Operate the SFSP:

Use [Nebraska Appleseed's SFSP Toolkit](#) to access an outreach checklist, press release template, social media images to accompany social media messages your school creates for its SFSP meal service, and a promo letter for parents and caregivers.