



CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP) MEALS

The CACFP Meal Program provides afterschool programs serving 50 percent free and reduced lunch eligible schools with full reimbursement for meals for all the children in their programs. The number of afterschool programs serving meals has increased significantly—meals are now being offered at over 2,000 sites in California!

Benefits

The Meal Program (sometimes called the Supper Program or Supper Snack) allows afterschool programs to provide their students with access to healthy food that is 100 percent reimbursed by the federal government. Afterschool programs report that after implementation, students are often able to focus better and get along better because they're not hungry!

Reimbursement Rate

As of July 1, 2014 the reimbursement rate for the Meal (Supper) Program increased to \$3.23 for the five components (two servings of fruits and/or vegetables, one serving of grains, one serving of protein and one serving of milk). This compares to \$.82 for the two-component snack program.

RESOURCES

CA AfterSchool Network (CAN) Meal Page

The CAN Meal Page has a wealth of resources to help programs implement the Meal Program including video webinars, fact sheets (including guidance on where to start), the database, case studies and links to CDE consultants who can provide further assistance. In addition, the Center for Collaborative Solutions (CCS) is available to help programs with resources and links to experts (other programs, mentors, or CDE staff) to help resolve any problems. Short videos on the “Nuts and Bolts” of the Meal Program are also available to further help programs.

Meal Page link:

www.afterschoolnetwork.org/after-school-meal-program



Database

Quarterly, CDE updates a database of afterschool meal providers. The database provides information by county of the sites providing meals, their school districts, and sponsors. If your district is not yet providing meals, you can use the database to identify whether a nearby district is providing them and could provide assistance to your Food Service Director. The database was updated on July 1, 2014 and is available at www.afterschoolnetwork.org/after-school-meal-program

Getting Started

Afterschool programs should start with the Food Service Director(s) of the school district(s) of the sites they're serving. Food Service Directors know the ins and outs of serving meals and meeting USDA requirements. Other organizations like Food Banks can also sponsor the Meal Program. See the database for sponsors near your program or contact Kathy Lewis at the Center for Collaborative Solutions for additional help at kathyblewis@ccscenter.org