

At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program in the CACFP

Purpose

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally-funded, State-administered program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks served to eligible children and adults who are enrolled for care at participating child care centers, day care homes, and adult day care centers. In Vermont, CACFP is administered by the Vermont Agency of Education Child Nutrition Programs. The At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program is component of the CACFP that provides cash reimbursement to eligible public and private organizations that serve nutritious snacks and suppers to children through age eighteen participating in afterschool care programs in low income areas.

Why Combine Meals with Afterschool Programming?

- Provides children a safe place to be with friends, with structured activities and supportive adults.
- Provides an opportunity for children to participate in afterschool programs and social activities.
- Ensures hungry children have access to healthy meals beyond the school meals programs.
- Meals and snacks provide the nutrition needed for children to learn and grow.
- Offering meals or snacks with afterschool programming can decrease behavioral issues associated with hunger.

Eligibility Requirements

- Eligible public or private schools, nonprofit or qualifying for-profit centers providing community-based programs.
- Must be organized primarily to provide care for children after school or on weekends, holidays, or breaks during the school year.
- Be located in an attendance area of school where at least 50 percent or more of the children are eligible for free or reduced price meals.
- Must offer regularly scheduled, structured, and supervised education or enrichment activities for at-risk children and youth.
 - This may occur after school or on weekends, holidays or school vacations during the regular school year. It may not occur during summer vacation.
 - Afterschool programs must be open to all children. Activities that limit space and/or deny participation cannot qualify to participate.
- Licensing is not required, however if the Program is not located within a school, the center must meet state or local health and safety standards.

Contact Information: If you have questions about this document or are interested in applying to participate in the CACFP, please contact: Rebecca Cochran, Child Nutrition Programs, at rebecca.cochran@vermont.gov or 802-828-1610.

Reimbursement

At-Risk Afterschool Meals Programs can be reimbursed for up to one meal and one snack per day. The meal and snack service may not occur at the same time.

Meals and snacks must be offered to participants at no cost. All meals and snacks served in the At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program are reimbursed at the free rate.

Meal Pattern Requirements

- Meals and snacks must be served to children after the school day has ended.
- Meals and snacks must either meet the CACFP meal pattern requirements. If you are a School Food Authority (SFA) already participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), you have the option of following the NSLP meal pattern.

Supper Example:

- Fluid milk: Fat-free chocolate milk
- Grain: Whole-wheat pasta
- Vegetable: Salad with tomatoes
- Vegetable or fruit: Roasted broccoli
- Meat/Meat Alternate: Chicken, beans



Recordkeeping Requirements

- Daily Attendance Documentation
- Dated Menus
- Point of Service Meal Counts
- Meal/Production Records
- Monthly Operating Expenses
- Training Documentation
- Monitoring Reviews (Sponsors only)
 - Three times per year
- All documents must be maintained for 3 years, plus the current year (4 years)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.