

Comparison of Summer Food Program Options for SFAs *

Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

The similarities between the two programs are summarized below. The information following that section outlines the differences between the two programs.

| Topic | Applies to Both Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) |
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| Food Service Program Oversight | When the school sponsors a summer food program, the school is required to have oversight of the summer food program operations and have a designated person to assure compliance with regulations and policy. (If an enrichment/activity program wants oversight of the food program, then that program, not the school, would sponsor the Summer Food Service Program.) |
| Types of Sites And How Eligibility Is Determined | <p>Open site: At least 50% of the total enrollment at the school were eligible for free or reduced price school meals during any month of the preceding school year.</p> <p>Closed enrolled site: At least 50% of the children enrolled at the site were eligible for free or reduced price meals at the close of the preceding school year.</p> <p>Camp site: Less than 50% of the children enrolled at the site were eligible for free or reduced price meals at the close of the preceding school year AND/OR programs and enrollment change on a regular basis.</p> |
| How Site Type Affects Reimbursement | <p>Open site: Sponsor claims as “free” ALL meals served to children 18 and under who eat at the site (regardless of individual eligibility).</p> <p>Closed enrolled site: Sponsor claims as “free” ALL meals served to children 18 and under who are enrolled at the site (regardless of individual eligibility).</p> <p>Camp site: Sponsor claims as “free” only meals served to children 18 and under who are individually eligible. No reimbursement is received for meals served to children who are not eligible for free or reduced price school meals.</p> |
| Number and Types of Meals That Can Be Served | <p>Sponsors that are not camps can serve up to 2 meal types each day, any combination except Lunch and Supper. Camps can serve up to 3 meals per day, including lunch and supper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="display: inline-block; width: 25%;">• Breakfast <li style="display: inline-block; width: 25%;">• Lunch <li style="display: inline-block; width: 25%;">• Supper <li style="display: inline-block; width: 25%;">• Snack |

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|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------|----------------|--|-------------|-------|
| Food Service Operations | Under school oversight of the food program food service operation MUST be a continuation of the school year program. Programming/activities may be operated by a group affiliated with the school, such as 21 st century programs.) | Under school oversight of the food program, food service operation may be but does not have to be a continuation of the school year program. Programming/activities may be operated by a group affiliated with the school, such as 21st century programs.) | | | | | | |
| Reimbursement Rates | <p>Same as “free” rates during school year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY2012 Rates through June 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Breakfast \$ 1.51 ✓ Breakfast \$ 1.80 (severe need) ✓ Lunch/Supper \$ 2.77 ✓ Lunch/Supper \$ 2.79 (high) ✓ Snack \$.76 • FY2013 Rates starting July 1 (Information not yet available) <p>Reimbursement is based on “eligible meals times rates.” If site/SFA receives severe need rates during school year, this continues with SSO.</p> | <p>Same rates throughout the summer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer 2012 Rates <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Self-prep or</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Other Types of</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Rural Sites</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Sites</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Breakfast ✓ Lunch/Supper ✓ Snack <p>Reimbursement is based on “eligible meals times rates.”</p> <p>There are no severe need rates.</p> | | Self-prep or | Other Types of | | Rural Sites | Sites |
| | Self-prep or | Other Types of | | | | | | |
| | Rural Sites | Sites | | | | | | |
| Commodities | <p>FY 2012 School Year Rate (may change each year)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$0.225 (22 ½¢) for each lunch or supper • May receive bonus commodities | <p>FY 2011 SFSP Rate (remains the same each year)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$0.015 cents (1½ ¢) for each meal • May receive bonus commodities | | | | | | |

* A School Food Authority (SFA) is the governing body that is responsible for the administration of one or more schools and has the legal authority to operate the Program. (Over please)

| Topic | Seamless Summer Option (SSO) | Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) |
|--|---|--|
| Application and Agreement | Statement of Intent for approval; then SFA completes Seamless Summer Option section of SFA application on line for each site being operated | Statement of Intent for approval; then sponsor completes SFSP application on line (sponsor application and site information for each being operated). |
| Meal Pattern | Continuation of menu planning option used during school year. | Schools may use menu planning option used during school year or follow SFSP meal pattern |
| Public Notification | Required to publicize program for open sites only | Required to send public media notice regarding program and eligibility. Different media release for each site type (open, closed enrolled, camp) |
| Recordkeeping and Documentation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Meal counts by site (daily and monthly totals) ✓ Menus and menu production records (same as school year) ✓ All costs associated with operation of the summer food program ✓ Documentation of site eligibility for each site ✓ Documentation of sponsor monitoring at each site (once during first three weeks of operation) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Meal counts by site (daily and monthly totals) ✓ Menus and meal production records for menu planning option implemented for SFSP ✓ All costs associated with operation of the summer food program ✓ Documentation of site eligibility for each site ✓ Documentation of sponsor monitoring at each site (pre-op, 1st week, 4th week) ✓ Beneficiary data for each site ✓ Documentation of training site personnel ✓ Copy of the media release(s) sent and media outlets it was sent to ✓ Copy of the notification letter sent to the department of health ✓ Documentation of corrective action resulting from any visits from the health department ✓ Meal ordering records (vended meals) ✓ Meal delivery records (vended meals and multi-site sponsors) |
| Training Requirements | The first year, new sponsors/new food program administrators are required to attend training; otherwise, no requirement unless special circumstances. | At least one sponsor rep is required to attend training annually. In turn, this individual is responsible for training other staff who will be working with SFSP. |
| Monitoring That SFA Is Required To Do | Sponsor must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conduct annual review of meal counting, claiming, and meal pattern compliance at each site within three weeks of start of operations. | Sponsor must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conduct preoperational visits before a new site starts operation • visit all sites once during first week of operation • review all sites once during first four weeks of operation and then monitor at a “reasonable” level |
| State Agency reviews | Corresponds to CRE schedule (at least once every five years). The state must review at least one site within the same year that the SFA is reviewed. | Each sponsor is subject to a review by the state at least once every three years. It may be more frequent based on program size and prior year problems identified by the state. |
| Claim for Reimbursement | Claims submitted by school year claims official via web-based claim system | Claims submitted by SFSP claims official via web-based claim system |