



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Child Care Centers
and Family Day Care Home Sponsors

FROM: John Frassinelli, Chief
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

DATE: December 26, 2014

SUBJECT: **Operational Memorandum #05C-15 and #05H-15**
Health and Safety Inspection Requirements

This memorandum provides guidance and clarification on health and safety inspection requirements in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), specifically as they relate to non-traditional centers. Additionally, this memorandum exempts CACFP at-risk afterschool centers located in schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP) from any additional health and safety requirements.

CACFP regulations require institutions and facilities that operate as traditional child care centers or day care homes to be licensed or approved by Federal, State, or local health and safety authorities in order to be eligible for participation [7 CFR 226.6(d)]. In areas where such licensing is unavailable, institutions and facilities may obtain alternate approval by demonstrating to the CACFP State agency compliance with applicable State or local child care health and safety standards or CACFP child care standards [7 CFR 226.6(d)(3) and (4)]. Additionally, facilities must take steps related to storing, preparing, and serving food to ensure that foods are safe for children to eat [7 CFR 226.20(l)].

Non-Traditional Centers Exempt from Licensing Requirements

CACFP regulations do not require at-risk afterschool care centers, outside school hours care centers (OSHCCs), or emergency shelters to be licensed; however, they must meet State or local health and safety standards [7 CFR 226.6 (d)(1)]. Health and safety standards vary significantly among States and municipalities and, in part, depend on the type of facility involved. In addition, required standards for each type of center may differ, depending on the building or location of the site, the structure of the program, and the type of meal services offered.

For example, a center that serves both a snack and a supper may be required to meet different health and safety standards than one that serves only a snack. Similarly, a center that prepares its own meals may be subjected to more stringent health and safety standards than a site that serves vended meals. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) continues to encourage CACFP State agencies to work closely with State and local health and safety authorities to determine the specific required standards for each type of facility.

If the appropriate licensing body determines that an at-risk center or OSHCC is license exempt, that center is eligible to participate in CACFP provided it is in compliance with all State or local health and safety standards.

Funding Health and Safety Inspections in CACFP

CACFP does not include additional funds for health and safety inspections. However, sponsoring organizations of day care homes may use up to \$300 in administrative funds per home to enable tier I homes to meet licensing, registration, or alternate approval requirements with specific prior written approval by the CACFP State agency [7 CFR 226.16(k)]. Additionally, fees charged for inspections of at-risk afterschool care centers and OSHCCs are allowable costs under the CACFP [refer to [FNS Instruction 796-2, Financial Management – Child and Adult Care Food Program](#)].

Transitioning to/from CACFP and SFSP

In cases where the health and safety inspection standards for CACFP and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sites are the same or more stringent, CACFP State agencies may accept documentation of an inspection obtained by a sponsor for SFSP. This option is available for SFSP sponsors or sites transitioning from SFSP to CACFP as well.

Inspections for CACFP Facilities and SFSP Sites Located in Schools

Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP) are required to obtain two food safety inspections annually from State or local authorities [7 CFR 210.13(b) and 7 CFR 220.7(a)(2)]. These inspections are generally in alignment with, or more stringent than the health and safety standards required of CACFP facilities and SFSP sites. Therefore, CACFP facilities and SFSP sites located in schools that participate in NSLP or SBP and that are in compliance with NSLP or SBP inspection requirements are not required to obtain an additional health and safety inspection.

If there are any questions about this information, contacts are as follows:

Day Care Center Sponsors: Susan Boyle at 860-807-2074, Celia Cordero at 860-807-2076, Benedict Onye at 860-807-2080 or Terese Maineri at 860-807-2145.

Day Care Home Sponsors: Celia Cordero at 860-807-2076 or Terese Maineri at 860-807-2145.

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