




STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

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

DATE: May 12, 2016

SUBJECT: **Operational Memorandum No. 4A-16, 5C-16 and 5H-16**
New Meal Pattern Requirements for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

On April 25, 2016, the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued the final rule, *Child and Adult Care Food Program: Meal Pattern Revisions Related to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010*, which updates the CACFP meal pattern requirements for children and adults to better align with the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, as required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. This rule requires all CACFP centers (child care, at-risk afterschool centers, emergency shelters and adult day care) and family day care homes to serve more whole grains and a greater variety of vegetables and fruits, and reduce the amount of added sugars and solid fats in meals. In addition, the standards encourage breastfeeding in child care facilities, and better align the CACFP with the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and other Child Nutrition Programs.

These new CACFP meal patterns are effective **October 1, 2017**, with some provisions being phased in by October 1, 2019. Over the next few months, the USDA will issue guidance on these new requirements, which the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) will provide to CACFP sponsors when it is available. The CSDE will also be revising *Nutrition Policies and Guidance* to reflect these changes, and will be providing training for CACFP sponsors beginning this fall. In the meantime, CACFP sponsors can find more information on the USDA’s [Nutrition Standards for CACFP Meals and Snacks](#) Web page.

Questions may be directed to:

Day Care Center Sponsors	Day Care Home Sponsors:
Susan Boyle at 860-807-2074 Celia Cordero at 860-807-2076 Benedict Onye at 860-807-2080	Celia Cordero at 860-807-2076

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Important: This is a numbered Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) operational memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain in a binder for future reference. All CSDE operational memoranda are posted on the CSDE’s [Operational Memoranda for the CACFP](#) Web page.