



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Sponsors of School Child Nutrition Programs

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

**DATE:** August 25, 2015

**SUBJECT:** **Operational Memorandum #36-15**  
*Public Act No. 15-215 – An Act Concerning Various Revisions and Additions to the Education Statutes*

Governor Malloy recently signed into law Public Act No. 15-215 – *An Act Concerning Various Revisions and Additions to the Education Statutes*. Part of this law mandates that local education agencies (LEAs) notify parents and guardians about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The law states the following:

*Section 13.(NEW)(Effective July 1, 2015)(a): Not later than October 1, 2015, the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Social Services, shall provide information about the supplemental nutrition assistance program pursuant to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to local and regional boards of education. Such information shall include, (1) information about how to qualify for the program, (2) where to obtain applications, and (3) where to get help completing applications.*

*(b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall use the information about the supplemental nutrition assistance program pursuant to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, provided by the department pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, to provide notice to the parents or guardians of students about said supplemental nutrition assistance program.*

Effective immediately, all sponsors of school Child Nutrition Programs must notify households about the SNAP, including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) and Special Milk Program (SMP). The Connecticut State Department of Education has revised the attached Addendum C to reflect updated language.

School nutrition programs may use Addendum C to notify parents and guardians about the SNAP. Districts may choose to post Addendum C on their Web site with the free and reduced-price application materials, or may choose to issue Addendum C with the packet of free and reduced-price materials that is sent to all parents/guardians at the beginning of the school year.

Questions may be directed to:

COUNTY ASSIGNMENTS	CONSULTANT	E-MAIL AND PHONE
Fairfield County	Fionnuala Brown	<a href="mailto:fionnuala.brown@ct.gov">fionnuala.brown@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2129
Hartford County (towns/cities beginning with A-R)	Teri Dandeneau	<a href="mailto:teri.dandeneau@ct.gov">teri.dandeneau@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2079
Hartford County (towns/cities beginning with S-W) Windham County	Susan Alston	<a href="mailto:susan.alston@ct.gov">susan.alston@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2081
Litchfield County	Allison Calhoun-White	<a href="mailto:allison.calhoun-white@ct.gov">allison.calhoun-white@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2008
Middlesex County Tolland County	Andy Paul	<a href="mailto:andrew.paul@ct.gov">andrew.paul@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2048
New Haven County	Jackie Schipke	<a href="mailto:jackie.schipke@ct.gov">jackie.schipke@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2123
New London County	Monica Pacheco	<a href="mailto:monica.pacheco@ct.gov">monica.pacheco@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2073

JF:tdd

Attachment

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 School Nutrition Programs](#) Web page.

**INFORMATION ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

If you qualify for free school meals, you might also qualify for **SNAP** (formerly called Food Stamps). SNAP helps people buy food for themselves and their families. SNAP benefits are issued each month on plastic debit cards. You can use SNAP benefits to buy food at major supermarkets, neighborhood grocery stores and some farmers' markets authorized to accept SNAP.

**HOW TO QUALIFY**

If you qualify for SNAP and how much SNAP you qualify for depends on:

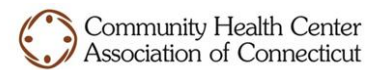
- your income;
- the number of people you live with;
- certain types of assets such as money in the bank; and
- your monthly shelter expenses.

Household Size	Gross Monthly Income	Gross Annual Income
1	\$1,800	\$21,600
2	\$2,425	\$29,100
3	\$3,052	\$36,624
4	\$3,678	\$44,136
5	\$4,303	\$51,636
6	\$4,930	\$59,160
7	\$5,556	\$66,672
8	\$6,181	\$74,172
Larger households = higher incomes		

If you have access to the Internet, you can go online to see if you are eligible for SNAP. Go to [www.connect.ct.gov](http://www.connect.ct.gov) and click "Am I Eligible?" **Owning your own home or owning a car will not prevent you from being eligible for SNAP.** The state will not place a lien on your home or your car if you get SNAP benefits.

**TO APPLY OR GET MORE INFORMATION**

- To find your local Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) office, call **United Way's free referral number 2-1-1** (free call statewide).
- You can apply online at [www.connect.ct.gov](http://www.connect.ct.gov) (click "Apply for Benefits"). You can get the paper SNAP application in English or Spanish at [www.ct.gov/dss/lib/dss/pdfs/applications/w-1e.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/dss/lib/dss/pdfs/applications/w-1e.pdf).
- The Community Health Center Association of Connecticut works with the following community health centers, which will help you enroll in SNAP.



<b>Community Health Services</b> Hartford 860-249-9625	<b>Community Health &amp; Wellness Center of Greater Torrington</b> 860-387-0448	<b>CIFC Greater Danbury Community Health Center</b> 203-743-0100, ext. 254	<b>Fair Haven Community Health Center</b> New Haven 203-777-7411, ext. 5082	<b>First Choice Health Centers</b> East Hartford, Manchester, Vernon 860-528-1359, ext. 241
<b>Generations Family Health Center</b> Willimantic, Norwich, Putnam 860-450-7471, ext. 6300	<b>Optimus Health Care</b> Bridgeport, Stamford, Stratford 203-696-3260, ext. 3326	<b>Southwest Community Health Center</b> Bridgeport 203-332-3542	<b>StayWell Health Center</b> Waterbury 203-756-8021, ext. 3814	<b>United Community &amp; Family Services</b> Norwich, New London, Plainfield, Jewett City 860-822-4353

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