

*Date:* March 17, 2020

*To:* Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) List-Serv Members

*From:* Community Nutrition Team

*Subject:* CACFP Bulletin March 2020-11

## **Announcements from the Wisconsin Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)**

### **COVID - 19 and CACFP**

To date, USDA has not provided any guidance for the CACFP in response to the COVID-19. Further guidance will be provided as we receive information from USDA. The current CACFP regulations must be followed in your programs in order to claim meals under the CACFP. If meals do not meet CACFP requirements, they cannot be claimed for reimbursement. This includes serving the required components at all meals/snacks, providing creditable foods, and meeting minimum serving sizes. **This applies to all Head Start programs and licensed child care centers that participate in the CACFP.**

### **FAQ**

#### **Can meals / snacks (food) be sent home with the participants?**

No, CACFP requires meals / snacks be consumed on-site under the supervision of the CACFP agency to claim the meal. Currently, there is pending legislation regarding this requirement. When this information is released, we will send out updated information.

#### **What if we cannot find the food(s) that are required for the CACFP?**

If the meal pattern requirements for breakfast, lunch, supper, and / or snack cannot be met the meal cannot be claimed for reimbursement.

#### **Can we repeat snacks/meals throughout the week if we are unable to find variety in grocery stores at this time?**

Yes, DCF has temporarily suspended snack and meal requirements that would limit repeating foods on a menu. Meals and snacks still need to meet meal pattern requirements in order to be claimed for reimbursement.

#### **Can food that will expire (i.e. milk) be sent home with the families?**

No. The food can be donated to a non-profit organization, such as a local food pantry because federal funds were used to pay for the expense.

**Will CACFP payments be disrupted?**

At this time claims will be processed and paid. Agencies will be notified if this changes.

How can you stay updated? For up to date information on Coronavirus in Wisconsin, please see the DHS [Outbreaks and Investigations webpage](#). For USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Program Guidance on Human Pandemic Response visit <https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic>. For DPI's guidance visit <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/2019-novel-coronavirus>.

We will update our website with information as it becomes available with locations of free meals being provided in communities through the local school districts under the Summer Food Service Program or Seamless Summer Option.

More guidance will be issued as it is made available.