



Imminent Threat and Serious Deficiencies Sponsor Monitoring Requirements

Imminent Threat to Health or Safety

Sponsors must train their monitors to recognize conditions that pose an imminent threat to the health or safety of the participants, staff, and/or the public and to take appropriate action. Circumstances that rise to the level of imminent threat include:

- Lost or missing participant
- Suspected maltreatment of a participant
- Suspected sexual, physical, or emotional abuse of staff, volunteers, or family members occurring while on the premises of the facility
- Injuries to participants requiring medical or dental care
- Illness or injuries requiring hospitalization or emergency treatment
- Mental health emergencies
- Health and safety emergencies involving parents or guardians and visitors at the facility
- Death of a participant or staff member (including a death that occurred outside of the facility's hours of operation that had resulted from serious illness or injury at the facility)
- The presence of a threatening individual who attempts or succeeds in gaining entrance to the facility
- The presence of accessible firearms
- An assessment of whether the site has corrected problems noted on the previous review(s)
- Inadequate or incompetent supervision;
- Unsanitary conditions for food service or unsanitary water;
- Inadequate light, ventilation, sanitation, or heating;
- Failure of the home's fire detection and prevention system.

Required Action for Imminent Threat Conditions

Sponsors must:

- Notify the relevant State or local licensing and/or health or law enforcement authorities when identifying an imminent threat to the health or safety of participants, staff, or to the public in the center. If a participant is in imminent danger, contact the proper authorities immediately and stay at the site until authorities arrive. The sponsor must take action as specified by those authorities.
- Retain documentation of the identified imminent threat condition(s) and the monitor's notification to authorities.
- Incidents of imminent threat to health and safety require the center to be suspended from CACFP participation and declared it as seriously deficient. Immediately contact your [assigned consultant](#) to start this process.

Serious Deficiencies

When serious deficiencies are identified during a monitoring review, the sponsor must complete that site's next review as unannounced. Serious deficiencies include:

- Submission of false information on an application
- Submission of false claims for reimbursement
- Simultaneous participation under more than one sponsoring organization
- Non-compliance with the CACFP meal pattern
- Failure to keep required records
- Conduct or conditions that pose an imminent threat to the health or safety of a participant(s) in care, or the public health or safety
- A determination that the site has been convicted of any activity that occurred during the past seven years that lacked business integrity
- Failure to participate in training
- Any other circumstance related to non-performance under the CACFP agreement