



Date: July 7, 2021

To: Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Members

From: Summer Food Service Team

Subject: Announcements from the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

Next SFSP Mini Series Reminder – Celebrate Summer!

The next **SFSP Mini Series** live webinar is Thursday, July 8th at 2:00 pm. July is the perfect month to celebrate the best of summer. Listen in to hear more about SFSP Week (July 26 – 30, 2021), Farm to Summer and the Cucumber Crunch (July 29, 2021). And, the Beet is back for 2021! We will review USDA's [Turnip the Beet Award](#) and nomination process. There will be time at the end for questions and DPI will provide Program updates and reminders, if needed. *If you are unable to attend this webinar, it will be recorded and posted on the [SFSP Training website](#).*

Topic: SFSP Week, Farm to Summer, Cucumber Crunch & Turnip the Beet

Date: July 8, 2021

Time: 2:00-2:30 p.m.

Access the webinar: Click [here](#).

Closed Enrolled Site Waiver Approved by USDA

SFSP regulations require that sites that provide academic summer school operate as open sites. Due to COVID-19, the DPI requested and received approval from USDA to allow SFSP and SSO sponsors in good standing, to operate closed enrolled sites at summer school locations for the duration of summer operation. Sponsors do not have to request this waiver to utilize it, but will be surveyed at a later date, to determine if the waiver was utilized, etc. **Although this waiver has been granted, it is not required to be utilized.** Sponsors operating academic summer school may continue to operate open summer school sites and are encouraged to find ways to continue to serve children in the community that are not participating in summer school, whenever it is safe to do so.

Application Updates for this Summer

Hopefully the start of your summer sessions are going well! If you find you need to adjust dates of operation, times of meal service, or even add sites yet this summer, be sure to update your SFSP application and get those changes approved as soon as you know about them.

SFSP Focused Reviews and Technical Assistance

The [list of sponsors receiving a focused review/technical assistance this summer](#) can be found on our website on the Materials & Resources page, under the Application section. If your agency is listed and a DPI SFSP Team consultant has not already reached out to you, know that you will be contacted soon.

Food Safety

Food safety is important all year long, but there can be an added concern during the summer months, especially when serving outside and/or delivering meals to sites and homes. Please check out the various [food safety resources](#) available to you.

Parent Pick Up and Home Delivery Tips

Many sponsors are utilizing online forms to have families pre-order meals for pick up or delivery. If you are having trouble with 'no shows' reach out to your IT department to see if your organization utilizes messaging systems that can quickly and easily let you 'remind' families of the scheduled pick up or delivery times. If you are a school, chances are some type of messaging system was put in place to connect with students and families during school closures. Collecting the contact information needed, such as an email or cell phone number, during the pre-ordering process, will help you to easily implement the system.

Another tip (from one of our sponsors!), if delivering meals and no one is home to accept the meal, consider utilizing the DPI SFSP door hanger as a 'Sorry We Missed You' message. You can stick a label on the doorhanger to let the family know that they should contact you about their missed meal delivery.

New Tips for Staffing Summer Meals Programs

No Kid Hungry has a new resource [Tips for Staffing Summer Meal Programs](#) with some great ideas on hiring passionate and dedicated staff for summer meals programs.

Please reach out to your assigned DPI SFSP Team Consultant if you have questions – thank you!