

Questions and Answers from September's What New Webinar Featuring Free and Reduced presentation on "Special Situations"

QUESTIONS ON PROTEIN, USDA FOODS, NEW HIRE TRAINING, AND SERVSAFE,

Question: Can we use a food label that states 5 gr protein can be used as 1 meat/meat alternate? Can we extrapolate that to other proteins?

Answer: The 5 grams protein equating to 1 oz eq meat/meat alternate only applies to tofu. Other meat/meat alternate products are credited with other qualifiers such as the Food Buying Guide or a Product Formulation Statement.

Question: Since we did not get all of our direct diversion pounds for Pilgrams, as Pilgrams has no product can we order even if we don't have dollars left?

Answer: No, you may not order. USDA Foods is monitoring.

Question: I am a new hire. I was wondering if you have a class called great beginnings to help new hires get started in school food service.

Answer: we do! Please email Cindy at Cynthia.Loechler@dpi.wi.gov for help in registering. Welcome to the world of school nutrition!

Question: If a staff member took the test and did not pass so only has to retake the test what time do they need to be there? They did not take it at DPI originally.

Answer: If a person already has the 6th Edition ServSafe Manager book with 20123 Food Code Updates, they do not need to purchase the \$79 book and exam. The exam only costs \$38 and we start the exam prep process around 2:30pm. Regardless if they purchase the book or not through us, they are welcome to attend the entire day course.

QUESTIONS ON FREE AND REDUCED APPLICATIONS

Question: Can you clarify what the responsibility is for food service when we receive applications that are marked foster or homeless?

Answer: Foster: If app has foster has checked you accept at face value.

Homeless: You need to get documentation from your school's homeless liaison. This also applies to Migrant, Runaway and Head Start/Even Start.

Question: I completed two Direct Cert updates and noticed that benefits are not being extended to additional household members if eligibility is scheduled to end in 30 days. How do I correct this? I use Infinite Campus.

Answer: We suspect this is an Infinite Campus issue. They would be eligible for DC if they live in same household.

Question: If a family does not come up as being direct cert and they provide an application with a case number do they automatically qualify for free?

Answer: Yes, as long as they provide the ten digit case number. Further follow up is needed if there is more than 10 digits or they write something other than "Food Share" or "W-2 cash", for example, Badger Care or Kinship Care.

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Question: If a family completes an app for their child that is kinship do they provide income for all adult household members?

Answer: Yes, they do if they have legal responsibility. If the court retains legal responsibility/custody then they do not have to provide income; they would be automatically free.

Question: If a household has foster care children do they automatically qualify free meals?

Answer: The foster children do, but it does not extend to others in the household.

Question: What paperwork are we required to have paperwork for foster and or homeless?

Answer:

Required paperwork for foster:

- 1) DC list with "e" code.
- 2) Box on application is checked (accept at face value),
- 3) If family has documentation such as court documents.

Homeless paperwork: We do need further confirmation. Try reaching out to the homeless liaison or the homeless shelter director.

Question: What if the application marks the foster box and then writes kinship on it?

Answer: If the application marks "foster" and then writes Kinship, you need follow up to determine formal or informal kinship arrangement.

Question: What about foreign exchange students?

Answer: Foreign exchange students are not automatically free. The household hosting the exchange student would have to apply or qualify via DC.

If a district wishes to provide a meal benefit a funds transfer must be made from another fund to cover the cost.

Question: If a student is kicked out of their home with parents and living with another district family how do we handle meal charges if the student who is living with a different district family but has no income just a place to live

Answer: First you should check with the homeless liaison. If not determined to be homeless, an application would need to be completed by the family the student is residing with.

Since the 18 year old student likely cannot establish separate economic independence, the new household should complete an application.

Question: Please be aware: I have found that Kinship Care is not advising their clients accurately. I have had 3 grandmothers this year alone that have been told their association with Kinship make them "automatic". My efforts to reach out to Kinship supervisors has been fruitless.

Answer: Sometimes social workers are under the impression that children automatically qualify for free meals, but that is not always the case. It goes back to who has the legal responsibility.