

IMPROVED TARGETING OF DAY CARE HOME
REIMBURSEMENTS

PURPOSE: To highlight changes made to the 1997 interim rule on targeting of day care home reimbursements.

SCOPE: Sponsors of family day homes participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

DESCRIPTION: School food authorities shall provide, upon request by CACFP sponsors, elementary school attendance area information for schools in which 50 percent or more of enrolled children have been determined to be eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

When making tier 1 day care home determinations based on school data, sponsoring organizations shall use attendance area information that has been obtained, or verified the appropriate school officials to be current, within the last school year.

Sponsoring organizations must document tier 1 determinations based on school data with official source documentation obtained from the school.

The final rule provides three options for tier two providers. They are (1) elect to have the sponsor identify all income-eligible children by soliciting income applications; (2) elect to identify children whom the sponsor or provider know, on the basis of documented proof, to be categorically eligible; (3) receive tier 2 rates for all enrolled children. Income applications would not be distributed for option 2 or 3.

Applications which include a household confidentiality waiver statement must also include a statement informing the household that its participation in the program is not dependent upon signing such a waiver.

For purposes of calculating claiming percentage/blended rate, enrolled child means a child whose parent or guardian has submitted to an institution a signed document which indicates that the child is enrolled for child care. Claiming percentages shall be established on the basis of one month's data concerning the number of enrolled children determined eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

The final rule gives sponsoring organizations the authority to conduct pricing verification of the income information provided by households of

children enrolled in tier 2 homes.

Finally, in the CACFP, documentation means (a) the completion of the following information on an application for free and reduced-price meals: (1) names of all household members; (2) income received by each household member, identified by source of income (such as earnings, wages, welfare, pensions, support payments, unemployment compensation, social security and other cash income; (3) the signature of an adult household member; and (4) the social security number of the adult household member, or an indication that he/she does not possess a social security; or

(b) For a child who is a member of a food stamp household or a TANF assistance unit, *documentation* means the completion of only the following information on an application for free and reduced-price meals: (1) the names and appropriate food stamp or TANF case number(s) for the child(ren); and (2) the signature of an adult member of the household; or

(c) For a child in a tier II day care home who is a member of a household participating in a Federally or State supported child care or other benefit program with an income eligibility limit that does not exceed the eligibility standard for free and reduced-price meals: (1) the name(s), appropriate cases number(s), and name of qualifying programs for the child(ren); and the signature of an adult member of the household.

SOURCE:

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Policy Memorandum #2-99.