

School Closure Fact Sheet Due to COVID-19

Requirements

- Schools are not required to feed students during school closures due to COVID-19.
- If a school does close due to COVID, reach out to the school's field specialist for help with determining the appropriate meal program.
- Temporarily moving all students to eLearning/virtual learning is not considered a school closure.
- If a school is operating eLearning, meals can be served either on-site or through non-congregate feeding under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)/School Breakfast Program (SBP). In this case, Summer Seamless Option (SSO) is not allowed.
- School closures due to COVID-19 are considered unanticipated school closures, and SSO can operate during the closure for school buildings 50% or more free and reduced in school year 2020-2021.
- Non-congregate feeding has been approved until June 30, 2021 in SNP only, which includes SSO but does not include Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).
 - For school closures, buildings 50% or more free and reduced with no eLearning/virtual learning can be approved to implement non-congregate SSO feeding. This is allowable for the duration of the closure or until June 30, 2021.
 1. To see if the school building would qualify for SSO, reach out to your field specialist.
 2. Schools must update their site information sheets and be approved in the CNPweb in order to serve meals under SSO.
 3. For SSO, meals are claimed at the free rate.
- Schools should contact their local health department before feeding students during a school closure.

Financial Management

- Schools will receive reimbursement based on normal reimbursement rates for SSO.
- Click [here](#) for the financial management website for SNP.

Meal Pattern

- Schools must offer students healthy and nutritious meals that meet the [meal pattern](#) (i.e. vegetable subgroups for lunch, whole-grain rich products at breakfast and lunch, etc.) and consist of fruits, vegetables, grains, meat/meat alternates, and milk.
- Grade groups must be followed, even if providing grab and go meals for non-congregate feeding.
- If implementing offer versus serve, students must be provided with five components for lunch and be able to decline two components. For more information about offer vs. serve, click [here](#).
 - Schools cannot require students to only decline milk.

Program Requirements

- Staff need to follow all of the rules for the respective programs, including completing daily food production records, menu documentation, meal counting, etc.

- Civil Rights requirements such as having one person from the school district complete the online Civil Rights training and training others involved in SNP is still required. Click [here](#) for the Civil Rights website.
 - The “And Justice For All Poster” must be prominently displayed in all facilities and locations that distribute program benefits or administer SNP services.

Resources

- [Food Service Re-Entry Guidance for School Year 2020-2021 website](#)
- [Food Service Re-Entry Guidance for School Year 2020-2021 newsletter](#)

Questions? Contact your [Field Specialist](#).