

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

CHILD DAY CARE PROGRAMS

The primary goal of the CACFP is to improve the diet of children 12 years of age or younger. Children 15 and under from families of migrant workers are also eligible, and certain disabled people regardless of age may receive CACFP meals if they are enrolled in a center that serves mostly persons 18 years of age or younger.



Nutrition is an important part of good health. Proper nutrition is also an important part of a good child care program. Children need well-balanced meals in order to meet their daily energy needs and to help them build

strong bodies and minds. Through the CACFP, you can be assured that your child is getting balanced, nutritious meals. As participants in the CACFP, child care organizations may serve up to three meals a day to each child. If three meals are served, at least one of them must be a snack. All of the meals must follow patterns set by USDA.



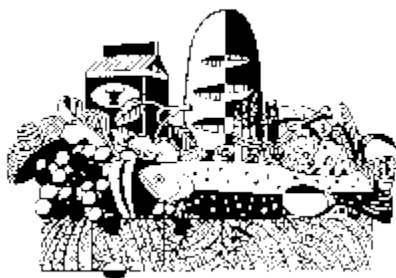
There are two groups of meal patterns. The first group is for infants through 11 months. Foods in these patterns vary according to the infant's age. Infants from four through seven months old may receive some, but not all, of the foods in the meal pattern below. Solid foods are not required for infants seven months of age or younger. The second group of patterns is for children over one year of age.

Child Care Infant Meal Pattern Requirements (8 through 11 months)

Breakfast	Lunch and Supper	Snack
Infant formula (iron fortified), whole fluid milk or breast milk	Infant formula (iron fortified), whole fluid milk or breast milk	Infant formula (iron fortified) or full-strength fruit juice
Infant cereal (iron fortified)	Infant cereal (iron fortified) and/or	Bread or crackers
Fruit and/or vegetable	Meat, fish, poultry, or egg yolk or cheese or cottage cheese, cheese food, or cheese spread or cooked dry beans or peas	
	Fruit and/or vegetable	

Foods for Children

Breakfast	Lunch and Supper	Snack
Milk Juice, fruit, or vegetable Bread or bread alternate	Milk Meat or meat alternate <u>2</u> Vegetables and/or Fruits Bread or bread alternate	<i>(Serve two of the following four foods.)</i> Milk Meat or meat alternate Fruit, vegetable or juice Bread or bread alternate



The CACFP gives financial assistance to public and private nonprofit organizations providing licensed or approved nonresidential day care service throughout the country. Organizations participating in the CACFP include, but are not limited to, day care centers and institutions providing day care services for disabled children. Also, private for-profit centers that receive compensation under Title XX of the Social Security Act for at least 25 percent of the children who are receiving non-residential day care **OR** that care for enrolled children at least 25% of which are eligible for free or reduced price meals, may

qualify as eligible child care institutions. Sponsoring organizations can operate the CACFP in child care centers and school-age child care centers.

Institutions can operate in the program either independently or under the auspices of a sponsoring organization. The sponsoring organization must accept final administrative and financial responsibility for centers under its auspices. In each state, the CACFP is operated by a State administering agency.



Reimbursement for Meal Service

As participants in the child care component of the CACFP, institutions receive cash reimbursement for serving meals to enrolled children that meet Federal nutritional guidelines. An institution may be reimbursed for up to three meals for each enrolled participant per day. These meals may be any combination except breakfast, lunch and dinner. For example, each participant may be served breakfast, lunch and a supplement.

Institutions may also choose to receive surplus commodities which are items which U.S.D.A. has stockpiled beyond the normal storage capacity. They include items such as beef, chicken, cheese, butter, flour, fruit, beans, rice, oats, honey and nuts. Institutions who opt for surplus commodities receive about 12 cents less for each lunch and dinner served. However, they often receive twice that amount in food value.

Civil Rights Statement

The Child Day Care Program is available to all eligible participants regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. If you have questions about any of USDA's nutrition assistance programs, check the information on the FNS web site, <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/>. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

For additional information regarding the CACFP in New Jersey, please contact:

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Food and Nutrition
CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 334
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If you have questions about any of USDA's nutrition assistance programs, check the information on the USDA web site, <http://www.fns.usda.gov/>.