



CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM EMERGENCY SHELTERS

What is CACFP?

CACFP is the Child and Adult Care Food Program, a federally funded nutrition assistance program that provides healthy meals and snacks to 2.6 million young children in day care settings. The program also serves 62,500 adults who receive care in nonresidential adult day care centers. In 1999, CACFP reached even further by providing snacks to youths participating in after school care programs, and meals and snacks to children residing in homeless shelters or domestic abuse shelters.

Which shelters can participate?

Applying to the Child and Adult Care Food Program, an emergency shelter must provide residential and food services to homeless children and their parents or guardians. Some shelters in New Jersey may need to be licensed. If not, a shelter must meet any health and safety codes that are required by state or local law.

A homeless shelter or a temporary residential site sponsored by a shelter, or another public or private nonprofit agency, is eligible to participate in CACFP. A shelter operated by a proprietary organization may also be eligible. A shelter may complete an application and sign an agreement with the state administering agency, or it may participate as a facility under an existing CACFP sponsoring organization.

Who is eligible for CACFP meals and snacks?

Children 18 years of age and younger, and residents of any age who have disabilities, in residential emergency facilities may receive up to three reimbursable meals each day, on weekdays and weekends. Residential children who receive their meals at the shelter are automatically eligible for free meals and snacks. There are no application forms for their parents or guardians to complete. All reimbursable meals and snacks are served in group settings, at no cost to the child or to the child's parents or guardians.



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 2 Vegetables and/or Fruits Bread or bread alternate	(Serve two of the following four foods.) Milk Meat or meat alternate Fruit, vegetable or juice Bread or bread alternate

How are shelters reimbursed?

Homeless shelters receive payments for serving meals and snacks, which meet Federal nutritional guidelines, to eligible children. The maximum payment rates are based on the numbers of meals and snacks served at the free rate for day care centers. Shelters also receive commodities or cash-in-lieu of commodities for each CACFP lunch or supper they serve.

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 facilities under its auspices. In each state, the CACFP is operated by a State administering agency.

Where can you get more information?

Participation and additional information regarding the CACFP may be obtained by contacting the Child and Adult Care Food Program office.

Civil Rights Statement

The Emergency Shelter 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](#), (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.



If You Have Questions, Contact:

N.J. Department of Agriculture
Division of Food and Nutrition
Child and Adult Care Food Program
P.O. Box 334
Trenton, NJ 08625-0334
(609) 984-1250