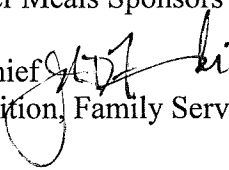




STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Potential 2018 Summer Meals Sponsors

FROM: John D. Frassinelli, Chief 
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

DATE: February 5, 2018

SUBJECT: **Operational Memorandum No. 01-18 – SFSP**
Interest Survey for 2018 Summer Meals Programs

In order to plan for implementation of the Summer Meals Programs in 2018, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) Child Nutrition Unit is requesting that all sponsors who participated in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) in 2017, and any prospective organizations, indicate their interest in becoming a SFSP sponsor.

The following 2017 data show the number of meals served and the number of children who participated in all types of summer meals programs including the SFSP, the SSO, and academic summer school.

Average Daily Participation:	39,204
Total Number Meals Served:	1,775,084
Total Number Sites Served:	686

The CSDE anticipates growth in access to and participation in 2018 Summer Meals Programs. As you plan your summer meals program for 2018, consider how you can expand to feed additional at-risk children. Examples include beginning summer meals sooner after the school year ends, continuing later into the summer, opening more sites, and increasing outreach efforts to children. Remember, ***hunger does not take a summer vacation!***

School sponsors are eligible to participate in either the SFSP or the SSO of the NSLP. Under the SSO, school districts are offered streamlined administrative procedures through reduced paperwork. In recent years, the United States Department of Agriculture has provided SFSP guidance allowing similar streamlined administrative procedures for school sponsors participating in the SFSP. The CSDE encourages school sponsors to consider participation under the SFSP. The higher per meal reimbursement rates under the SFSP allows sponsors additional financial resources to support staffing and high quality meals during the summer months. If you are considering transitioning your summer meals program from the SSO to the SFSP, please contact the CSDE Summer Meals Coordinator for technical assistance to make this process efficient and effective.

The CSDE requests the attached Planning Data form from **all** 2018 summer meals sponsors. Please complete the attachment and return by **February 26, 2018**:

1. Review the attached 2017 site list and document the necessary changes for 2018.
 - For sites that will continue operating in 2018, indicate planned dates of operation.
 - If sites will not operate in 2018, indicate by placing a line through the site information.
 - If new sites will be added in 2018, complete the Proposed New Site section of the Planning Data form and return with the site listing.
2. **All** sponsors must complete the Planning Data section of the attached form and sign, date, and return. Please note that this form must be completed and returned even if there are no changes from 2017.
3. Submit your response electronically by e-mail to Caroline Cooke at Caroline.Cooke@ct.gov.

Your response will signify your interest in sponsoring summer meals in 2018, either under the SFSP or SSO regulations. It is therefore important that you submit your reply by the deadline of **February 26, 2018**. Additional information will be forwarded to the contact person listed in the Planning Data section.

If you have any questions, please contact Caroline Cooke, Summer Meals Coordinator, at 860-807-2144 or Caroline.Cooke@ct.gov.

JDF:csc

Attachments: (2)

**Summer Meals Programs:
 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
 Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)**

ANNUAL INTEREST SURVEY PLANNING DATA FORM

Sponsor Name: _____

Sponsor Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____ **E-mail Address** _____

**Signature of Contact Person indicating
 review of attached list was completed:** _____

Proposed New Sites				
Site Name and Address	School Site? Yes/No	Census Block Group	Tentative Dates of Operation	Estimated Daily Attendance

ANNUAL INTEREST SURVEY PLANNING DATA FORM, continued

Proposed New Sites				
Site Name and Address	School Site? Yes/No	Census Block Group	Tentative Dates of Operation	Estimated Daily Attendance

School Sponsors Only

School District _____ has participated in the SSO previously and may be interested in transitioning to the SFSP in 2017.

Name of Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____