

At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program

Through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), schools and community organizations can receive reimbursement for serving snacks and suppers after school, on holidays, and on weekends to school-age children when school is out.

Until recently, agencies operating afterschool programs in at-risk areas were only eligible to claim reimbursement for one snack per child per day. However, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 has expanded the At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program to include reimbursement for a meal as well as a snack.

Eligibility Criteria

- At-Risk Afterschool Meals Programs may be operated by public, private nonprofit and private-for-profit organizations. For-profit organizations must have a child care center enrolled in the CACFP
- Each program must be located in the attendance area of a school in which at least 50 percent of enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals
- The program must provide afterschool care with education or enrichment activities, although drop-in kids are eligible and do not need to participate in the activities
- The agency may claim up to one meal and one snack served to children up to the age of 18 (or any age if determined by the State to be mentally or physically disabled)
- The agency may claim meals served to children after school or on weekends, holidays, or school vacations during the regular school year
- Snacks or meals cannot be reimbursed during summer vacation
- All snacks and meals must meet the CACFP meal pattern unless the agency is sponsored or vended by a school in which case they may use the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) meal pattern. Agencies funded by the California Department of Education's (CDE's) After School Education and Safety program, or the federally funded 21st Century Community Learning Centers program must also meet California nutrition standards.

For more information see the California Department of Education Web pages at

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/as/snackfacts.asp> and
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/as/afterschoolnutstan.asp>

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