

Afterschool programs keep young people safe, help working families, and engage children in learning—but they also can nourish young people during the hours when school's out. Out-of-school time meals are an effective way to reduce childhood hunger and promote a healthy childhood weight. Here are four ways that interested organizations (sponsors) can offer meals to children.

Afterschool Snack Program via the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

The Afterschool Snack Program can be operated by school nutrition departments through the National School Lunch Program. A snack (two food components) is served on regular school days after the school day concludes as part of an enrichment program.

Income requirements: Reimbursement rates vary based on family eligibility

Age: 18 or under (at the start of the school year)

For more information: [Afterschool Snack Program](#)



At-Risk Afterschool Meals via Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)



The At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program provides children and teenagers the nutrition they need, and can draw them into regularly scheduled constructive activities that are safe, fun, and educational. Public, private nonprofit or for-profit (Title XX) organizations that operate an eligible afterschool enrichment program may apply to serve a snack and a meal after school, on weekends, and/or holidays. Students participating in other afterschool programs, including athletics, can eat the meals and snacks as well.

Eligibility requirements: 50 percent students eligible for free/reduced-price meals under NSLP

Age: 18 or under (at the start of the school year)

For more information: [At-Risk Afterschool Meals](#)

CACFP Outside-School-Hours Care Component

Meals can be served to children through organizations that provide regularly scheduled child care services. Child care licensing requirements must be met. Up to two meals and one snack per child can be served each day. Programs must be distinct from any organized extracurricular programs for scholastics or athletics.

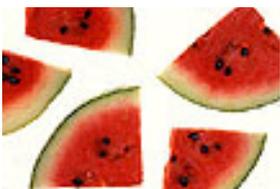
Eligibility requirements: Reimbursement rates vary based on family eligibility

Age: 12 or under

For more information: [Child and Adult Care Food Program for Centers](#)



Summer Food Service Program



The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is designed to fill the nutrition gap left during the summer months and make sure children can get the nutritious meals they need. SFSP sites can be sponsored by schools or other non-profit organizations, and must be located in economic-eligible areas. Up to two meals or one meal and one snack per day can be offered.

Eligibility requirements: Economic area eligibility required

Age: 18 or under (at the start of the school year) and young adults with disabilities enrolled in educational programs

For more information: [Summer Food Service Program](#)

For more information, please contact the Minnesota Department of Education, Food and Nutrition at 651-582-8526 or toll free 800-366-8922.

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