

Afterschool Snack Program Fact Sheet

Schools that run the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and operate an afterschool care program at a school or non-school site are eligible to receive reimbursement from the USDA for snacks served to children in afterschool educational or enrichment activities (such as mentoring or tutoring programs). Sponsors must retain financial, administrative, and managerial responsibility of the Afterschool Snack Program.

Program Basics

| | Area Eligible | Non- Area Eligible |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Location | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located at a school or in the attendance area of a school where at least 50% of the enrolled children are eligible for free and reduced-price meals. • Check a school's area eligibility on the eligibility map. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located in a school or in the attendance area of a school where less than 50% of the enrolled children are eligible for free and reduced-price meals. • Check a school's area eligibility on the eligibility map. |
| Counting and Claiming | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count a total number of snacks served at the point of service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The count can be taken using a hand-held clicker or a Snack Count Form. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If using a clicker count, the total number of snacks served to students can be recorded on the daily snack food production record. • Claim all snacks in the free category. Snack counts are submitted on the breakfast and lunch claim. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count snacks by student name at the point of service in order to determine the number of free, reduced-price, and paid snacks served. • Options to count snacks by eligibility category (free, reduced-price, and paid) may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Using the Meal Counter available on the MDE website. ○ Using the point of service counting system that is used at breakfast/lunch. ○ Using the Weekly Attendance and Snack Count Form available on the MDE website. • Claim snacks based on free, reduced-price, and paid eligibility. Snack counts are submitted on the breakfast and lunch claim. |

| | Area Eligible | Non- Area Eligible |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Pricing or Non-Pricing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannot charge students for snacks. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pricing: Can charge paid and reduced-price eligible students for snacks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cannot charge reduced-price eligible students more than 15 cents. • Non-Pricing: Can choose not to charge for snacks. |
| Applications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications for meal benefits are not collected. All students automatically qualify for free snacks. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have an application on file to determine student eligibility. • Can use the same application on file for lunch/breakfast. |
| Reimbursement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All snacks served are reimbursed at the free rate. View the current snack reimbursement rates. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snacks served are reimbursed according to eligibility category (free, reduced-price, and paid). View the current snack reimbursement rates. |

Enrichment Activity

- In order to participate, a sponsor must offer children an opportunity to participate in a regularly scheduled educational or enrichment activity after school in a supervised environment.
 - Examples include mentoring and tutoring programs, school choir, debate, or drama club.
 - Sports teams alone cannot participate in the afterschool snack program. See the [Fact Sheet - Athletic Programs and Afterschool Meal Service](#) for more information if you plan to serve student athletes a snack after school.

Snack Counting and Claiming

- Regardless of area eligibility or non- area eligibility, all snacks must be counted at the point of service. Point of service refers to the location in the serving line where a determination can accurately be made that a reimbursable snack has been served to an eligible student.
- Snacks can only be claimed on school days.
- Snack must be served after the school day ends.
 - See USDA memo on [Expanded Learning Time Programs](#) for flexibility on snack service time.

Meal Pattern

- See the [meal pattern](#) on the Afterschool Snack Program webpage.
- A sample [cycle menu](#) is also available.
- Offer versus serve cannot be implemented at snack.
- Each snack must contain two different components from the following four:
 - Meat/Meat Alternate
 - Grain/Bread

- Fruit/Vegetable
- Milk
- Reminders
 - Two beverages cannot be served as a snack.
 - Whole grain rich items are encourage but not required.
 - Two items from the same component cannot be served (i.e. apples and carrots or cucumbers and orange juice)
 - There is not a milk variety requirement.

Food Safety

- Snacks must be kept at a safe temperature before, during, and after service. Sponsors should use a cooler temperature log to monitor the temperature of the cooler in which the food is stored.

Civil Rights

- Ensure afterschool snack program staff have completed the [civil rights training](#).
- If your school participates in the Afterschool Snack Program and the program serves the same students who attend school during the regular school day and have seen the “And Justice for All” poster in a centralized location, you are not required to have the poster hung in each area where the snack is served.

Procurement

- Snacks and other program supplies must be obtained through proper procurement procedures (free and open competition).

Recordkeeping

- Collect and maintain attendance counts daily.
 - Pre-printed roster
 - Sign in sheets
- Complete [food production records](#) daily.
- Complete the afterschool snack program [on-site monitoring form](#) two times per year.
 - The first must be completed within the first 4 weeks of program operation.
 - The second can be completed at any time during the year.
- As with breakfast and lunch, proper menu documentation must be maintained to demonstrate meal pattern compliance.

Additional resources can be found on the [Afterschool Snack Webpage](#).