

Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) for Family Day Care Homes

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development



What is the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)?

The CACFP is a federally funded nutrition assistance program that provides healthy meals and snacks to 2.5 million young children each day in day care settings. The program also serves 58,000 adults who receive care in nonresidential adult day care centers.

How do family day care homes participate?

A family or group day care home must sign an agreement with a sponsoring organization to participate in CACFP. Day care homes must be licensed or approved to provide day care services.

What are the requirements?

1. Prepare and serve meals that meet the USDA meal pattern requirements.
2. Record accurately the number of children served daily.
3. Participate in required training.
4. Permit home review to ensure operation of the food program is successful.

How can the CACFP help family day care home providers?

- Help pay for meals served to children in care
- Assist providers in planning meals that meet USDA standards for nutrition
- Let parents know that children in care have nutritious meals waiting for them

How are family day care home providers reimbursed?

- Rates are determined by income or participation in state or federally funded programs such as food stamps, TANF, or child care assistance. Federal reimbursement rates are adjusted annually in July.
- A family day care home provider is eligible to receive reimbursement for up to two meals and one snack or two snacks and one meal daily per eligible child in care.
- A family day care home provider may also be eligible to claim meals provided to her own children if income eligible.

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