

How can your school provide meals to students when the regular school year ends?

Summer Food

The Summer Food Service Program is ideal if you sponsor enrichment, recreational, or activity programs over the summer. It is a federally funded program administered by your State.

- The State agency reimburses sponsors for free meals served to children, including teenagers through age 18, at approved meal sites in low-income areas.
- Simplified rules allow sponsors to earn reimbursement for the meals they serve and use the money as they need for the food program.
- Once approved by the State agency, the school serves meals free of charge to children, including teenagers through age 18, under the school meal program rules.
- Meals are reimbursed at the free rates for school lunches, school breakfasts, and afterschool snacks, which are slightly lower than the Summer Food Service Program rates.

Seamless Summer

Schools participating in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program are eligible to apply for the Seamless Summer Option.

- Seamless Summer has less paperwork, making it easier for schools to feed children during the traditional summer vacation periods and, for year-round schools, long school vacation periods.
- Academic summer schools that intend to serve meals only to enrolled students follow the same rules and claiming procedures for free, reduced-price, and paid meals that they follow during the regular school year.

School Lunch and Breakfast

The National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs are available for any school that is hosting an academic summer school.



Become a Sponsor

- School districts are well positioned to provide meals that complement learning and recreation opportunities for children at neighborhood schools, as well as at other community sites, including recreation centers, playgrounds, parks, and camps.
- A school may serve as a sponsor and prepare its own meals, or contract with a vendor to purchase meals.
- Sponsors are reimbursed for all meals served that meet USDA's nutrition standards.



Run a Site



- Summer food programs keep students engaged and school facilities open. Even if your school district cannot take on the responsibilities of a sponsor, your school can host a site.
- As a meal service site, the school supervises the children's meals, along with recreation and enrichment activities, under the administration of an approved Summer Food Service Program sponsor.