



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Education

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Alabama  
State Board  
of Education

**National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week: March 12-18, 2023**

Governor Kay Ivey  
President

**Montgomery, Ala.** – The goal of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is to serve nutritious meals to children in childcare homes and centers and in afterschool programs.

Jackie Zeigler  
District I

The CACFP also serves adults in day care. The establishment of positive eating habits at the earliest stages of development can reduce future health care and education costs due to lack of proper early development. During National CACFP Week, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) joins with all other organizations nation-wide working in the CACFP in acknowledging the many ways our community benefits from the program.

Tracie West  
District II  
President Pro Tem

Children and adults that are cared for by providers participating in the CACFP benefit from the nutritious meals that follow the CACFP meal pattern that ensure proper development. Children in CACFP receive meals that are nutritionally superior to those served to children in comparable childcare settings not participating in the CACFP.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.  
District IV

These children benefit from early nutrition education that helps them establish positive eating habits that will enrich the quality of their diet throughout their life. Research shows that CACFP reduces food insecurity and plays a vital, clear role in promoting nutrition security. Parents of children in childcare are assured that their child(ren) receives high quality meals.

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.  
District V

With proper nutrition, the child is less likely to experience illness and fatigue and will develop at a normal physical and intellectual pace.

Marie Manning  
District VI

Good nutrition is the recipe for an all-around happier child. By expanding access and strengthening CACFP, working families can ensure that their children are well cared for and receive the nutrient-rich diet and tools they need to be healthy.

Belinda McRae  
District VII

Providers receive nutrition education and support services from their CACFP sponsor that help them serve nutritious meals and create a positive eating environment for children.

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.  
District VIII  
Vice President

Reimbursement for CACFP participation supports providers in offering nutritious meals to those in their care.

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
Secretary and  
Executive Officer

As a result, CACFP providers serve more fruits, vegetables, and milk than non-CACFP childcare providers. This program provides children with high quality nutrition and learning experiences through the 470 CACFP sponsoring organizations approved to operate in Alabama. Please join us in honoring all CACFP providers for their invaluable work done on behalf of Alabama children.

Information can be obtained by contacting Alabama State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs at 334-694-4659. Or visit our website: [www.BreakforaPlate.com](http://www.BreakforaPlate.com)

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*National Child and Adult Care Food Program Week: March 12-18, 2023*

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Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue,  
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