

# STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 2024 SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM SPONSOR SIGN UP BEGINS

**Montgomery, AL** - Many families depend on school meals to provide nourishment to their children during the school year. At the culmination of the school year, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) fills the "nutrition gap" by way of sites operated by approved sponsors.

## WHAT IS THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM (SFSP)?

- The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) would like to announce the opportunity for organizations to register for SFSP. This program will provide meals to children during the summer of 2024. Approved organizations will be reimbursed for meals and snacks that meet USDA's SFSP nutrition guidelines.
- ALSDE encourages schools, parks and recreation programs, faith-based organizations, and other nonprofit organizations to offer meals through the Summer Food Service Program in eligible areas.

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

All children 18 years and under who attend an approved site will receive meals provided by SFSP sponsors. Training will be provided for eligible sponsors who operate this beneficial, underutilized program that provides snacks or meals to participants in needy areas without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

#### WHO CAN SPONSOR THE SFSP?

- Local SFA (School Food Authority) sponsors
- Government and Private Non-Profit Organizations
- New Government Sponsoring Organizations
- New Private Non-Profit Sponsoring Organizations

Information can be obtained by contacting the Alabama State Department of Education, Child Nutrition, Summer Food Service Program at (334) 694-4659 or visit our website www.breakforaplate.com/summer.

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Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
 Independence Avenue,
 Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.