

Home Delivery Options for Summer Food Service Program Sponsors

COVID-19



Can Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors deliver meals directly to children's homes?

- Yes. CDE School Nutrition may approve SFSP sponsors to serve meals via meal delivery. The sponsor must determine that there is a need and it is logistically feasible to deliver meals directly to homes and must adhere to all Federal confidentiality requirements. Delivery could be completed by mail or delivery service, or be hand-delivered by the sponsor's staff, volunteers, or others.
- Any sponsor in good standing may be approved for home delivery.

How can sponsors initiate this process?

- Colorado was approved for an area eligibility waiver, which was then extended through a nationwide area eligibility waiver. The nationwide area eligibility waiver expires on August 31, 2020.
- Through these area eligibility waivers, sponsors can deliver meals to a child in any area of the state, even if the location does not meet traditional area eligibility requirements, through August 31.
- Households must provide written consent to initiate meal delivery (this could include email or other electronic means), confirm their current contact information and delivery location, and confirm the number of children 18 and under who want meals.
- Households also must have a way of notifying the sponsor if they need substitutions due to medical or other special dietary needs.

How long can sponsors operate this model for?

- Home delivery is authorized under the nationwide non-congregate feeding waiver, and the nationwide meal service times waiver. These waivers extend until August 31, 2020.

How does home delivery work if the sponsor is contracting with a vendor to provide meals?

- Sponsors must have a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the vendor outlining confidentiality requirements. The MOU should include what information will be disclosed, how the information will be used, how the information will be protected from unauthorized uses and disclosures, and penalties for unauthorized disclosure. For further requirements, see [7 CFR 225.15\(k\)\(1\)-\(2\)](#).

How many meals can be delivered at one time?

- The maximum number of meals that may be offered each child remains the same as under SFSP: up to two meals, or one meal and one snack, per child, per day, in any combination except lunch and supper. Sponsors may distribute meals for multiple days, up to one week at a time (one week means one school week, or up to five days at a time). This means a child may receive up to 10 meals at one time.

- Sponsors must meet requirements to establish meal service times at [7 CFR 225.6\(c\)\(2\)\(i\)\(B\)](#) and [\(c\)\(3\)\(i\)\(A\)](#). A sponsor's delivery plan with designated times for distribution, when approved by CDE School Nutrition, would fulfill the requirements to establish meal service times.

Do the meals need to be shelf stable?

- No. The type of meal offered will depend on the resources and capacity of the site. Those that can prepare ready-to-eat meals and have the capacity to deliver meals daily in a way that meets state or local food safety requirements may do so. Home-delivered meals must meet all meal pattern requirements of the SFSP.

Does the child need to be present for home meal delivery?

- No. As long as the sponsor has obtained the household's written consent to deliver meals and has verified the current address, the child does not need to be present at the time of delivery. If the meals are shelf-stable, no one need be present, as long as the address has been verified.
- Please consider state and local food safety requirements and best practices.

If a household has children in multiple schools, can one home delivery be completed for all children in the household?

- Yes. Sponsors are encouraged to coordinate their deliveries to make best use of their resources. In the SFSP, any child or youth aged 18 and under is eligible to receive free meals.

Is each stop at a home considered an SFSP site? Do they have to adhere to site requirements for a mobile meal service?

- No. When performing home delivery of SFSP meals for a COVID-19 foodservice, each home would not be considered a site. Therefore, the SFSP site requirements, including site approval by the State agency, do not apply.

What funding is available for meal delivery?

- There is no additional reimbursement for home delivery or mobile meals delivery, but related expenses, such as postage or delivery service fees, would be considered an allowable cost under the SFSP. Delivery costs could also be paid with non-program funds such as grants or donations.

References

- [COVID-19 Summer Food Service Program \(SFSP\) and Seamless Summer Option \(SSO\) Meal Delivery Using Existing Authority Question and Answer](#)
- [Questions and Answers on the Nationwide Waiver to Extend Unanticipated School Closure Operations through June 30, 2020](#)