



**BULLETIN:**

**Child and Adult Care Food Program**

**Child & Adult Care Centers,  
Emergency Shelters, OSHC, &  
Sponsors of Family Day Care Homes**  
[www.education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp](http://www.education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp)

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**To:** CACFP Agencies  
CACFP Program Reviewers

**Date:** June 14, 2016

**From:** Ann-Marie Martin  
CACFP Coordinator

**Bulletin:** 2016-07

Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos and Technical Assistance Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance and compliance with the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Programs office if you need further clarification.

**Bulletin Topics**

1. CACFP Annual Training
2. Farm to Summer Grant Awards
3. Intent to Contract Meal Service
4. USDA Tip Sheet: Offering Healthy Summer Meals That Kids Enjoy
5. Nature Explore Classroom
6. Self Assessment Questionnaire: A Par of Choice Creating Healthy Opportunities in Child Care Environments
7. Serve Safe Training in Anchorage
8. Mealtime Memo: For Good Nutrition – Eat Foods in Season!

**1. CACFP Annual Training**

Annual required training is coming up in August and September. Please open the training registration form for your type of program and submit no later than July 15<sup>th</sup> to Cyde Coil.

Register the person who is responsible for CACFP for this required training. They will then be responsible for 1) training staff for specific job duties and 2) pass information to staff that are part of the CACFP team that manages the program (for instance, the accountant, cook, director, etc.).

Please attend the training in your area if this is an option. Distance delivery is reserved for adult care, emergency shelters, at-risk programs and agencies outside the Anchorage or Fairbanks area.

**Training options:**

- Child Care / Outside School Hour Care – (in person and distance delivery)
- Adult Care (distance delivery)
- Emergency Shelter (distance delivery)
- At-Risk Afterschool Meals (distance delivery)
- Head Start (in-person)

The training registration forms are included with this bulletin at:  
<https://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html>

## **2. Farm to Summer Grant Awards**

Congratulations to the CACFP programs that applied and were approved for funding their summer garden/nutrition programs! The following agencies are starting their projects and we look forward to hearing how they progress!

**Round 1 CACFP agencies:** Boys & Girls Clubs of Southcentral, Petersburg Children's Center, Congregation Beth Shalom, Petersburg School District, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Cordova School District, Ray's Child Care & Learning Center

**Round 2 CACFP agencies:** Fairbanks Family Day Care Food Program. Rock of Ages Daycare, Wellspring Revival Ministries-Joel's Place

## **3. Intent to Contract Meal Service**

If you are using a contractor for meal service please let us know by completing the Intent to Contract Meal Service form which is included with this bulletin at:

<https://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html>.

## **4. USDA Tip Sheet: Offering Healthy Summer Meals That Kids Enjoy**

As the summer approaches, make sure you have all the right information to serve healthy meals and encourage participation in summer meal programs. The Food and Nutrition Service has recently released a 4-page handout for summer meal site operators that gives practical ideas for small changes that sites can implement to improve the nutritional quality of meals they serve, and ways to make foods more appealing to children and teens. The handout is now available in both English and Spanish, and includes tips, resources, a taste-testing ballot, and sample menus!

The *Offering Healthy Summer Meals that Kids Enjoy* handout provides tips and tools to improve the quality of meals being served and ensures kids enjoy all that Summer Meal Programs have to offer. Start using the delicious sample menus and the "taste test ballot" now, to decide which fruits, vegetables, and recipes you should include in your summer menu more often. Find additional ideas about how to engage volunteers and staff and how to incorporate local foods in this colorful handout, and put your new inspiration into action with the interactive goal-setting section. The handout has information to help every type of site (big, small, or vended) make their summer meal program fun and healthy!

This handout is included with this bulletin at: <https://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html>.

Free printed copies of this handout, and other summer resources, are expected to be available for summer meal sites participating in the USDA Child Nutrition programs this summer through the Team Nutrition Web site: <http://teamnutrition.usda.gov>.

## **5. Nature Explore Classroom**

Certified Nature Explore Classrooms are dynamic, nature-based play and learning spaces. Nature Explore Outdoor Classroom Design Services apply research-based, field-tested design principles to create these nature-rich outdoor spaces that can be located anywhere a school, child care center, park, or other community site might have a traditional playground. Certified Nature Explore Classrooms enhance the physical environment and add natural beauty to the surrounding area. A network of Certified Nature Explore Classrooms is growing throughout the United States in elementary schools; early childhood

programs; nature centers; military bases; national forests, parks and wildlife refuges; zoos; Head Start centers; arboretums; children's museums and other public spaces. You can find more information at: <https://certified.natureexplore.org/>

#### **6. Self Assessment Questionnaire: A Par of Choice Creating Healthy Opportunities in Child Care Environments**

The Self Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) is meant to be used by child care center directors, staff, and family child care providers as a first step to help develop and implement nutrition and physical activity policy. It is designed to be brief, easy to use, understand and interpret. It is meant to be a "snap shot" of your child care environment at the moment you are answering the questions. You can find more information at: <http://www.proprofs.com/quiz-school/story.php?title=NjUwMjM0SC3J>

#### **7. Serve Safe Training in Anchorage**

A reminder that trainings take place at the Alaska CHAR a couple of times a month – normally on Tuesdays. Check the website for more information at: <http://www.alaskacharr.com/class-schedules.html>

#### **8. Mealtime Memo: For Good Nutrition – Eat Foods in Season!**

This month's Mealtime Memo focuses on eating foods that are in season. This would be a good resource to provide to parents encouraging them to purchase foods that are a good price this time of year and taste great. You can find the Mealtime Memo at the CACFP Bulletins page: <http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html>.

#### **Contact Information**

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#### **Commonly Used Acronyms**

CACFP – Child and Adult Care Food Program  
CNP – Child Nutrition Programs  
FNS – Food & Nutrition Services  
FNSRO-Food & Nut Services Reg. Office  
USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture  
LEA – Local Education Authority  
DEC – Department of Conservation

All attachments for this bulletin can be found on the State of Alaska Child Nutrition Programs, CACFP Bulletins page: <http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/CACFP4.html>.

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where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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