

Meal Service Options for Unanticipated School Closure

Unanticipated School Closure

An unanticipated school closure is defined as:

- Extreme weather events or natural disaster
- Unscheduled major building repair
- Court order relating to school safety or other issues
- Labor-management dispute
- Other similar cause as approved by the State agency

Seamless Summer Option (SSO)

Requires buildings eligibility rate \geq 50%

School Food Authorities that normally operate School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program, or Afterschool Programs in any building with a free and reduced eligibility rate of 50% or greater may apply for Seamless Summer Option.

Meals Service Options:

- breakfast and lunch, or
- breakfast and an AM or PM snack or
- lunch and an AM or PM snack

Seamless Summer Option meals must be served at non-school sites unless the School Food Authority has requested a waiver and provides Illinois State Board of Education documentation of a safety plan to alleviate any concerns for the safety of students participating in the meal service. Non-school site eligibility is based on area eligibility.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

Requires buildings eligibility rate \geq 50%/Area eligibility

Illinois State Board of Education may exempt existing Summer Food Service Program sponsors and School Food Authorities from submitting new applications to participate if the sponsor participated in SFSP in any time during the current year or in either of the prior two calendar years. In addition, sponsors applying for participation in the program due to unanticipated closure are exempt from the application submission deadline. Area eligibility requirements still apply for service during unanticipated school closures, except in certain disaster situations.

Meal Service Options:

- breakfast and lunch, or
- breakfast and an AM or PM snack or
- lunch and an AM or PM snack

Summer Food Service Program meals must be served at non-school sites unless the School Food Authority has requested a waiver and provides Illinois State Board of Education documentation of a safety plan to alleviate any concerns for the safety of students participating in the meal service.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Requires area eligibility

State agencies may allow at-risk afterschool centers to continue serving meals and snacks as part of the At-Risk Afterschool Meals component of CACFP during unanticipated school closures. On days when schools are closed, at-risk afterschool centers that normally offer a snack and supper after school may instead choose to offer either lunch and a snack, or a breakfast and a snack. These meals and snacks would be reimbursed through CACFP at the free rate.

Additionally, CACFP sponsors may serve a snack and/or a meal at a site that has been served meals earlier in the day by SSO or SFSP sponsors. See scenarios below

Illinois State Board of Education Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division

Email: cnp@isbe.net

Phone: (800) 545-7892 (Illinois Only) or (217) 782-2491

Scenario 1: During a labor dispute, Sponsor A feeds a child breakfast and lunch at a non-school site. That same child goes to their normal at-risk afterschool program ran by Sponsor B who normally feeds them a supper and a snack. Sponsor A may get reimbursed breakfast and lunch through SFSP and Sponsor B may claim their supper and a snack through CACFP.

Scenario 2: During a labor dispute, Sponsor A feeds a child breakfast and lunch at the same location as their at-risk afterschool program which is ran by Sponsor B and Sponsor B may feed the child a supper and a snack. Sponsor A will claim and receive reimbursement for breakfast and lunch through SFSP and Sponsor B will claim and receive reimbursement for supper and a snack through CACFP.

Note: Sponsors must keep records to ensure that a child who receives a meal in one Program does not receive the same type of meal in the other Program. The same sponsor cannot serve any more than 2 meals or 1 meal and 1 snack in a particular program.

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2. **Fax:** (202) 690-7442; or
3. **Email:** program.intake@usda.gov

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