

The background features several large, overlapping, colorful swirls in shades of green, purple, and blue. Scattered throughout are numerous small, yellow, triangular shapes that resemble confetti or starbursts.

# **Claiming Children with Special Needs**

## **Child and Adult Care Food Program**

Nutrition Programs

Illinois State Board of Education

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A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide features three balloons in shades of green, blue, and purple, each with yellow streamers and triangular flags trailing behind them.

## Question:

Can a day care home be reimbursed for a child's meal if the child is over age 12 and has special needs?



# USDA Question & Answer June 1999

- The CACFP regulations do not specify who must be included in or excluded from the license or approval of a child care provider.



# USDA Answer

- Therefore, if the State's licensing or approval permits (by either including in or by not excluding from the license or approval ) care of individuals meeting the definition of "children" at 226.2, and if all other CACFP requirements are met, then meals served to these individuals can be reimbursed through CACFP.



# According to Part 226.2

- *Children* means (a) persons 12 years of age and under, (b) children or migrant workers 15 years of age and under, and (c) persons with mental or physical handicaps, as defined by the State, enrolled in an institution or a child care facility serving a majority of persons 18 years of age and under.



# DCFS Regulations

- **Section 406.20 Children with Special Needs** - In determining license capacity, children who have special needs due to physical, mental, and/or emotional disabilities shall be considered at the age level at which they function.



# DCFS Regulations (cont.)

- The age level at which the child functions for purposes of determining child/staff ratios shall be determined by the supervising agency in consultation with personnel involved in providing care or services for the child.



# Determining Agent

- The determining agent is DCFS.
- The DCFS representative makes the determination to include the children in the license capacity in cooperation with the parents, along with education and health professionals.





# Sponsoring Organization

- To determine if the child is included in license capacity and the age level at which the child functions, the sponsoring organization must be in direct contact with the local DCFS representative.



# Sponsoring Organizations

- If the DCFS representative determines the child to function at an age of under 12, and if all other CACFP requirements are met, then meals served to these individuals can be reimbursed through CACFP.



# Daily records needed:

Daily records for each child must include:

- Enrollment information for the child
- Confirmation from DCFS representative on the age level
- Meal components
- Meal Type
- Ensure that all meal components are served



# DCFS confirmation

- If done by phone call,
  - Document the date and time of call
  - The name and title of DCFS representative
  - DCFS office name and phone number
  - Name, age, function age of child
  - Provider's name and site number
  - The date the determination was made



# Providers must remember:

- Children identified as having special needs shall have activities relating to those needs that are planned with parents and/or consultants.

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# Providers must remember:

- There shall be suitable space and equipment so that the child can function as safely and independently as possible.



# Providers must remember:

- 1) Areas of the home shall be adapted as necessary if special devices are required for the child to function independently.
- 2) Space needs shall be determined by considering such factors as age and size of the child, activity recommendation, and ambulation problems.

The background features several large, stylized swirls in shades of purple, green, and blue. Interspersed among these swirls are numerous small, yellow, triangular shapes that resemble confetti or starbursts, creating a vibrant and celebratory atmosphere.

# Questions?

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