



CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM
Questions and Answers
Name of Emergency Event: COVID-19

1. Waiver form – is it required that I submit a waiver form for my day care home?

In order to use any of the state or USDA nationwide flexibilities allowed you MUST have a waiver requesting that flexibility on file.

2. What are Non-Congregate Meals?

This means that meals do not need to be served in a group setting. Also, the meals may be handed out to children or parent/guardians of the children as in a grab ‘n go setting.

For day care homes – children receiving meals must be enrolled in the day care home, and the day care home must maintain attendance as well as meal counts.

3. What is a grab ‘n go meal?

A “grab ‘n go” meal is a packaged meal that can easily be given to children to take home and consume. The foods can be hot, cold, or shelf-stable (meaning they do not require refrigeration). If foods are offered that are hot or cold, the proper temperatures must be maintained until the time the parent picks up the food(s). You may want to recommend that parents either bring a cooler or go directly home after pick-up of meals, if possible, to ensure foods are kept as safely as possible.

Sample grab ‘n go meals:

- Turkey sandwich, carrot sticks, apple, milk
- Tuna salad, crackers, cucumber slices, banana, milk
- Cheese stick(s), potato salad, mandarin oranges, muffin, milk
- Ham and cheese on a tortilla, salad with dressing, peach cup, milk

4. What does Flexibility of Meal Service Times mean?

This means day care homes do not need to follow approved meal service times. Multiple meals may be served at one time – all approved meal types may be provided during one grab ‘n go trip. Meals for multiple days may be provided (up to a week at a time). State and local food safety requirements must still be met.

5. What is the maximum number of meals and snacks that can be claimed for reimbursement each day?

For day care homes, up to two meals and one snack, or two snacks and one meal, per child per day

6. Can day care homes provide bulk food items as part of the non-congregate meal service?

Yes, as long as individual meals are easily identifiable as a reimbursable meal.

- Must include the required food components in the proper minimum amounts for each reimbursable meal being claimed.
- Must ensure that food items are clearly identifiable as making up reimbursable meals.
- Must ensure that only minimal preparation is required for meals.
- Encouraged to provide menus with directions for how items are to be used for each meal, the portion sizes for each item, and handling/preparation/heating instructions (if applicable)

7. Is it necessary for a child to be present at the Grab ‘n Go in order to receive a meal?

No. The parent/guardian may pick up meals for children. This will reduce the number of people at pickup points and encourage sheltering in place.

8. What should I do if unable to serve the CCFP Meal Pattern?

If meals are served that *do not* meet the meal pattern (missing components or non-creditable foods), you must submit a waiver. Examples of meal pattern issues include:

- Serving meals with non-creditable milk (example: serving 2% to any age child or serving whole milk to children older than one)
- Not serving the required daily whole grain/whole grain-rich item
- Serving a non-creditable grain item such as a granola bar or cereal with more than 6 grams of sugar per ounce
- Serving a lunch or supper meal without the required vegetable serving (serving two fruits)

Refer to How to Record Meals on KidKare for instructions on documenting meal pattern issues.

9. How do I offer infant meals?

Due to the nature of infant meals, it is acceptable to give parents containers of formula and baby foods. If you have infants enrolled for care and are offering meals to older children, you must also offer meals for infants.

10. Can I serve and claim for reimbursement meals that are served to community children?

No. For day care homes, there is still a requirement that meals claimed must be served to enrolled children.

11. I have provided meals for my day care home by taking the children through a local school or Afterschool Program grab 'n go. Can I claim those meals for reimbursement?

No, only meals that you purchased and provided are eligible for reimbursement.

12. Can I still submit claims and get paid if I am closed and not serving meals?

No, the CCFP is a reimbursement program, meaning that you are reimbursed for meals served. Therefore, if you did not serve any meals in a month, you cannot submit a claim.