For more information, please contact:

Randa Meade
Summer Feeding and Menu Planning Specialist
School Nutrition Program
Tennessee Department of Education
Randa.Meade@tn.gov
(615) 532-0372

Community and Social Services Summer Food Service Program Tennessee Department of Human Services TNSFSP.DHS@tn.gov (615) 313-4749

To find summer sites near you, visit www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks or text 'FOOD' to 877-877.

Summer Feeding in Tennessee:

Seamless Summer Option and Summer Food Service Program



Providing delicious, nutritious meals to children during the months when school is not in session

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.





Summer Feeding in Tennessee



Kids still need good food, even when school is out. However, only a small percentage of children who qualify for free and reduced price meals during the school year are reached through summer feeding programs.

The Tennessee Department of Education, School Nutrition Program administers the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and the Tennessee Department of Human Services, Community and Social Services administers the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). These programs enable schools and community organizations to offer nutritious meals to children in low-income areas during the months when school is not in session. SSO and SFSP are administered at the federal level by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), an agency of the USDA. FNS decides overall program policy and publishes regulations and payment rates. The state agencies provide oversite by approving sponsor applications, monitoring operations, and processing program payments.

SSO and SFSP are available May–September and provide summer meals for free to all children 18 years and younger. School food authorities that participate in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program may serve as a program sponsor for both school and non-school feeding sites through SSO or SFSP; community partners and agencies may serve as a program sponsor for SFSP. To determine if you are eligible to serve as a summer feeding sponsor or site, contact the School Nutrition Program or Community and Social Services using the information on this brochure.

Summer Feeding Sponsors

Role of a Sponsor

Sponsors are school food authorities or community organizations that manage summer feeding sites. Sponsors must demonstrate financial viability, accountability, and administrative capability to operate a summer feeding program. As a sponsor, you will:

- attend required trainings;
- recruit sites and complete the application process;
- hire, train, and supervise staff and volunteers;
- write menus, and set up point of service systems;
- arrange for meals to be prepared and/or delivered;
- advertise to students, parents, and the public;
- plan, organize, and host summer kick-off and promotional spike events (optional);
- · prepare claims for reimbursement;
- monitor sites during operation for compliance with:
 - ♦ meal counting,

 - menu planning,
 - ♦ food safety requirements, and
 - ♦ production records.

During summer 2018

4,303,562 total meals,

including breakfasts, lunches, suppers, and snacks, were served between SSO and SESP.

Summer Feeding Sites

Site Types

Sites may be at school or non-school facilities, including buildings, parks, mobile sites, and other community locations. Site eligibility is determined in the following manner:

- Open sites: All children eat free in communities where at least 50% of the children are eligible for free/reduced price school meals.
- Restricted open sites: These are sites that meet the open site criteria, explained above, but are restricted for safety, control, or security reasons.
- Closed enrolled sites: At least 50% of enrolled children must be eligible for free or reduced price school meals. Eligibility cannot be determined using data from a nearby school attendance area or other area data.
- Migrant sites: These sites serve children of migrant families.
- <u>Camps:</u> These can be residential or nonresidential camps and must offer regularly scheduled food service as part of an organized program for enrolled children.

Responsibilities of a Site Supervisor

Site supervisors are those who oversee the physical location where summer meals are served. If you supervise a site, you will:

- attend your sponsor's training,
- supervise meal service at your site,
- manage staff and volunteers,
- distribute meals by following appropriate SSO or SFSP guidelines,
- keep daily records of meals served,
- store food appropriately,
- keep the site clean and sanitary, and
- help your sponsor promote the program in the community.