



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Sponsors of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs

FROM: Cheryl Resha, Education Manager
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

DATE: June 24, 2011

SUBJECT: **Operational Memorandum #26-11**
School Breakfast Program Availability Notification and Outreach

Research has shown that starting the day with a nutritious breakfast helps students stay alert and perform better in school. In an effort to help more children benefit from the nutritious meals served in the SBP, Section 112 of the Act amends section 13(a) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42U.S.C. 1761(a)). School Food Authorities (SFAs) participating in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) must inform families of the availability of reimbursable breakfasts served in their applicable schools.

A notification of the availability of breakfast must be relayed just prior to or at the beginning of the school year in the informational packets that are sent to each household with free and reduced price meal applications for the new school year. In addition, schools should send reminders regarding the availability of the SBP multiple times throughout the school year. Schools can provide reminders to children through their public address systems in schools or through means normally used to communicate with the households of enrolled children. Other acceptable outreach activities may include developing or disseminating printed or electronic material to families and schoolchildren. For example, information about the SBP should be posted on the school’s website.

SFAs are encouraged to use the information in *Expanding Your School Breakfast Program*, the SBP Toolkit found at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Breakfast/expansion/default.htm>, as a resource for outreach and expansion activities. Many helpful SBP expansion resources and materials are also available through Team Nutrition, and other local, State and national organizations. Additional activities to promote the availability of SBP meals may be approved by the State agency.

Additionally, do not forget that Connecticut has the Connecticut Breakfast Expansion Team (CBET) which assists SFAs in starting or expanding the SBP. For more information on CBET, contact Jackie Schipke at the email address below.

Questions may be directed to:

<i>COUNTIES</i>	<i>CONSULTANT</i>	<i>E-MAIL</i>	<i>PHONE</i>
Hartford and Windham	Teri Dandeneau	teri.dandeneau@ct.gov	860-807-2079
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New Haven (Towns/Cities beginning with A – M)	Jackie Schipke	jackie.schipke@ct.gov	860-807-2123
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