



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: 2013 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Sponsors

FROM: John Frassinelli, Chief
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

DATE: July 26, 2013

SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum #16-13 – SFSP
Questions and Answers Regarding the Participation of Head Start Programs in Child Nutrition Programs (CNP)

The purpose of this memorandum is to consolidate our policy regarding the participation of Head Start Programs in the CNPs. For more information about the Head Start Program and Early Head Start Program, please see the Office of Head Start's Web site:

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/>.

This memorandum supersedes the following previously issued memoranda:

- SP 34-2008, CACFP 10-2008, SFSP 09-2008, Automatic Eligibility for Early Head Start Participants, August 5, 2008;
- SP 23-2008, CACFP 07-2008, SFSP 06-2008, Automatic Eligibility for Free Meal Benefits Extended to All Children Enrolled in Head Start, May 16, 2008;
- Automatic Eligibility of State-Funded Prekindergarten Participants for Free Meals in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), and the School Breakfast Program (SBP), July 22, 1999; and
- Automatic Eligibility for Free Meals in the NSLP, School Breakfast Program (SBP), Special Milk Program (SMP) and CACFP for Participants in the Head Start Program, April 14, 1995.

Section 336 of the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 tasked the Secretary with examining and reporting on the feasibility of reducing unnecessary or duplicative paperwork in the CACFP. In response, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) established a Paperwork Reduction Work Group. Based on recommendations from this work group, this memorandum is also intended to emphasize the categorical eligibility of the Head Start and Early Head Start participants and to reiterate the legislative intent to serve these populations nutritious meals though the CNPs without undue barriers.

Questions pertaining to this memorandum may be directed to Fionnuala Brown at 860-807-2129 or fionnuala.brown@ct.gov.

JF:fb

Important: This is a numbered Operational Memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain in a binder for your future reference. Operational Memoranda are also posted on the Child Nutrition Web site at the following link: <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2626&q=333792>