



Office of Elementary, Middle, Secondary and Continuing Education
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TO: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public Schools
Chief Administrators of Nonpublic Schools Participating in the
National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs
Chancellor of New York City Public Schools
Executive Directors of Residential Child Care Institutions
Food Service Directors/Managers

FROM: Frances N. O'Donnell, Coordinator

SUBJECT: Funding for Suppers in Afterschool Programs through the Child and Adult Care
Food Program (CACFP)

The At Risk Supper program is now available to schools through the New York State Department of Health Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). This new program allows CACFP to provide the free rate of reimbursement for supper meals (currently \$2.17) served to school children up to 19 years old participating in organized afterschool programs in low-income areas. Prior to this, CACFP could only reimburse for supper meals served to children age 12 and under and the reimbursement was based on the household income of the children in the program. Now, afterschool programs in low-income areas may serve supper to all school children up to age 19 at no charge in addition to, or instead of, the snack. CACFP is a federal program that provides funds to feed children snacks and meals in afterschool and before-school programs, childcare centers and homes, and homeless shelters.

Afterschool programs qualify for this new supper option based on their location. An area is considered low-income if one of the schools serving the area has 50 percent or more of its enrolled students certified as eligible to receive free or reduced-price school meals.

The intent of the at-risk suppers is to provide funds for food served in organized afterschool programs. These programs would typically include education or enrichment activities known to help reduce or prevent children's involvement in high-risk behavior. Many school food authorities (SFAs) have taken advantage of snack reimbursement for after-school programs through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). If the after-school programs operate in an eligible area, schools may participate in both the at-risk snack and supper programs, provided that three hours elapse between the beginning of each meal service, or schools can provide supper instead of the snack. The service of the supper meal can make a significant difference in the nutritional intake of the children. The supper meal must meet the same requirement as for lunch, but does not include the offer versus serve provision. Therefore, students must take all required items of the meal pattern for the meal to be reimbursable.

SFAs that want to add the supper component, must apply to CACFP at the NY State Department of Health. It will remain the SFA's option as to whether or not they wish to participate in

the snack component under the NSLP or if they want to claim snacks along with supper under the CACFP. Applications are accepted continuously. It is my understanding at this time, that residential child care institutions are not eligible to claim supper. For more information, or to obtain an application, return to the address on the attached form or call 1-800-942-3858.