



Tips for Success

Five Keys to Success in the Summer Food Service Program

- 🍏 Serve quality meals
- 🍏 Keep sound financial records
- 🍏 Ensure access to program
- 🍏 Include activities
- 🍏 Publicize the program



Finances

To reach your SFSP goals, figure out how much money is available to spend on the program:

- ✂ calculate your maximum Federal reimbursement
- ✂ add funds from other possible sources, i.e., rebates, state government funding, grants, etc.
- ✂ don't overestimate participation



Access

When it comes to transportation problems, consider:

- 🍏 Working with rural school districts' bus operations
- 🍏 Calling organizations that have vehicles to help transport children
- 🍏 Renting a vehicle, at cost, to help the program
- 🍏 Bringing the food to the children on a bus that stops at a number of places

Remember to discuss non-traditional approaches to meal service with your State agency.

Activities

By including an activity program—athletic, academic or arts and crafts—at your site, you can help maintain high attendance. Partnerships with schools, parks and recreation departments, and nonprofit organizations can help keep costs down by organizing and supervising these activity programs.

Publicity

The Summer Food Service Program is not widely known. Including promotion in your SFSP plan can make the difference in having a successful program. Promoting your program through the media and the community will help get more kids to your site. Be creative, include in your promotion efforts:

- ✂ an exciting, high-quality site operation
- ✂ presentations to key groups and individuals in the community
- ✂ distribution of materials to draw attention to your program
- ✂ coverage and support by the media



www.summerfood.usda.gov