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|  | MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM | ISSUED | REVISED | CHAPTER | SECTION |
| | EMERGENCY/HOMELESS SHELTERS POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL | 3/05 | 4/09 | 5 | 5.7 |
| CHAPTER Chapter 5. Requirements of Management | | SUBJECT Claiming Infants | | | |

Shelters participating in CACFP must offer Program meals to children in residence at the shelter. Infants under 12 months old must have access to CACFP meals. CACFP meal pattern requirements are defined on the *Infant Food Chart*. The *Infant Food Chart* should be given to parents of an infant when they complete the resident roster. When an infant is a shelter resident, the shelter must offer an infant meal that meets Program requirements. Failure to offer the required infant meals will result in the shelter's ineligibility for the Program.

Infants must be recorded on the resident roster, meal count records, and claim forms the same as other participating children. Reimbursement rates for infants are the same as for older children. Infant meals claimed may not exceed three meals or two meals and one snack per day, regardless of the number of times the infant is fed.

For children, older than twelve months of age, meals that are consumed in private family quarters in a shelter are not reimbursable. Only meals served to children in congregate meal settings are eligible for reimbursement for participants one year and to 18 years of age.

An exception is made for infants, birth through 11 months of age, served in private family quarters that are part of a shelter. Those meals may be reimbursable if the shelter provides all of the required infant meal components to the parents or guardians, and records are maintained documenting that sufficient food has been provided to meet the minimum meal requirements for infants.

Infant meals can be claimed in these situations:

- Parents provide expressed breastmilk and the shelter provides all other required meal components as appropriate for age according to the *Infant Food Chart*. Meals containing only breastmilk may be claimed for infants from birth through seven months of age, only if served in a bottle by shelter staff.
- Parents accept the CACFP approved infant formula provided by the shelter and the shelter provides all other required food components as appropriate for age according to the *Infant Food Chart* provided the infant is developmentally ready.
- Parents provide a CACFP approved infant formula and the shelter provides all other required meal components as appropriate for age according to the *Infant Food Chart*. Infant meals may be claimed for infants' birth through seven months of age if the parent declines the formula offered by the shelter and provides a CACFP approved formula and the shelter feeds the infant the formula. When the child is developmentally ready to eat solid foods, as determined by the parent, the shelter must provide the other required meal components.
- When a shelter provides a parent/guardian a Women's Infants & Children (WIC) food voucher* for food package pick up at a grocery store. If the parent **shares** the food (formula, infant cereal and juice) with parents of other shelter infants (puts into a communal "pot") then the shelter can claim the infant meals.
- Mothers who breastfeed their infants in the shelter and the shelter provides all other meal components.

Infant meals **cannot** be claimed in these situations:

- Mother breast feeds her infant in the shelter and no other food components are served. While this feeding practice is desirable, the meal cannot be claimed for CACFP reimbursement because the shelter is not providing the service of feeding the infant.

- Parents do not accept the foods offered by the shelter. They bring food from an outside source for their infant.
- Whole milk is served in place of breastmilk or infant formula without medical documentation.
- When the parent/guardian picks up a WIC food voucher* package from the grocery store and does not share with parents of other shelter infant residents but store in their private living quarters.

See Section 7.2 for more information on infant feeding.

***WIC Food Voucher**

Effective October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009, WIC voucher provides the following food (subject to change depending on availability) on a monthly basis:

- Birth through three months – 9, 12.9 oz. cans of Enfamil LIPIL with Iron powdered formula that yields 806 fluid ounces when reconstituted
- Four to five months – 9, 12.9 oz. cans of formula plus 1, 8 oz. box of iron fortified dry infant cereal
- Five to six months – 9, 12.9 oz. cans of formula plus 2, 8 oz. boxes of infant cereal
- Six through 11 months – 9, 12.0 oz. cans of formula, 2 boxes of infant cereal plus 2, 32 oz. bottles of juice

Reference: 7CFR226.20(b)

FNS-258 Feeding Infants-A Guide for Use in the Child Nutrition Programs