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Washington Office of Superintendent of  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**  
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

k12.wa.us

July 16, 2021

- Action Required  
Due date: September 30, 2021  
 Informational

## BULLETIN NO. 053-21 CHILD NUTRITION SERVICES

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents  
School District Superintendents  
School District Business Manager  
School District Food Service Supervisors  
Administrators of Select Private Schools  
Charter Schools  
Tribal Compact Schools

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Seamless Summer Option Program Application for School Year 2021–22 –Public  
School District/Private Schools

CONTACT: Program Specialists

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## PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), Child Nutrition Services (CNS), is pleased to release the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) sponsor application materials for school year 2021–22. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has granted nationwide waivers allowing all students to continue to receive nutritious meals this school year. These waivers allow flexibilities to support the reopening of schools and serve all students free of charge, regardless of income. Waivers are in effect through June 30, 2022. The waivers allow:

- Operation of SSO at all schools regardless of location or site type.
- Schools operating SSO to provide meals free of charge to all students.
- SSO meals served to be reimbursed at a higher reimbursement rate.

Use of the waiver to operate SSO is available to all schools. Use of other USDA waivers is limited and requires approval as described in the Application Process. For a list of USDA granted waivers and guidance on SSO operation during COVID-19, please visit the [OSPI COVID-19 Nutrition & Meals Guidance webpage](#).

Due to COVID-19, you may have questions and concerns regarding the operation of meal programs. The USDA continues to monitor and release additional guidance and waivers. We will continue to provide updates and changes to program requirements. To receive important updates, you must be a contact on the Washington Integrated Nutrition System (WINS) Application, or you can self-subscribe on the [OSPI Communications and Updates webpage](#).

Information about Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application materials can be found on the [Free and Reduced-Price Information webpage](#) on OSPI's website and in the Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application and Information bulletin found on the [Bulletins and Memos webpage](#).

**The renewal application will open on July 7, 2021 and must be submitted by September 30, 2021.**

## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The SSO application is a two-part process, the Washington Integrated Nutrition System (WINS) application and the Meal Distribution Plan (MDP).

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that change their legal name resulting in a new Federal Tax Identification Number (FEIN) must report changes to CNS before starting the application process.

### 1. Submit the SY 21–22 Meal Distribution Plan

The SY 21–22 Meal Distribution Plan (MDP) notifies OSPI Child Nutrition Services about program operations and use of Nationwide waivers granted from USDA.

- Submit the [SY 21–22 Meal Distribution Plan](#) by September 30, 2021.
- Waivers may be implemented only to the extent and duration needed.
- Waivers will be approved on a case-by-case basis, justification is required.
- Examples of scenarios where appropriate to implement these waivers:
  - During a COVID outbreak resulting in partial or full school closure.
  - When providing grab & go meals to community children or virtual/remote students at open sites.

- When providing grab & go meals to remote students at closed-enrolled sites.
- Other unique circumstances.

## 2. Submit Sponsor Applications, Site Application, and Calendars in WINS.

WINS is a web-based electronic system used to collect sponsor and site information, as well as process claims for reimbursement.

- **Applications are due by September 30, 2021.** Late or incomplete applications may not be approved in time to claim reimbursement for August or September meals.
- Sponsors planning to operate the SSO must complete both SSO and National School Lunch Program (NSLP) applications in WINS.
- Application Resources:
  - Use the Seamless Summer Option Application Information for Sponsors (Attachment 1) for program information.
  - Use the Application Checklist for Sponsors Intending to Operate SSO (Attachment 2) for step-by-step instructions on completing your WINS application.
- Information on WINS and job aids can be found on the [CNS WINS webpage](#) or in WINS under the information drop down.
- A WINS Renewal Training for SY 21–22 will be posted on the [OSPI CNS WINS Moodle course](#).

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Civil Rights Requirements

LEAs participating in the USDA school meal programs are required to inform potentially eligible persons of their rights to receive program benefits. The USDA Civil Rights Non-Discrimination Statement must be placed on program materials **widely disseminated** to students and families. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Student handbooks containing program information
- School nutrition services webpages
- Letters to families
- Menus and brochures
- Online meal applications

Washington State has additional protected classes that are not outlined in the USDA Civil Rights Non-Discrimination Statement. **Public School Districts and Public Charter Schools**

**must put both the USDA, and the schools' non-discrimination statement on widely disseminated program materials.**

Please review the [Civil Rights Reference sheet](#) for more information on requirements in Child Nutrition Programs.

### **Afterschool Snack Program**

Afterschool snacks may be claimed for students through age 18 who are cared for in afterschool settings providing regularly scheduled educational or enrichment activities that are structured and supervised. The NSLP Afterschool Snack Program may be operated in conjunction with breakfast and lunch meals served through the SSO.

[COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #93: Nationwide Waiver of Area Eligibility in the Afterschool Programs and for Family Day Care Home Providers in School Year 2021–2022](#) allows schools and At-Risk afterschool care centers, regardless of their location, to claim all Afterschool snacks at the free rate.

### **Food Service Management Companies (FSMC) and Inter-District Agreements, and Vendor Agreements**

Sponsors may contract with an FSMC, which is a commercial enterprise or nonprofit organization that manages any aspect of the school's food service program. School food authorities must have their contract approved by OSPI prior to signature and to filing claims in WINS. The contract will include all services performed by the FSMC. Details regarding contract requirements can be found on the CNS Food Service Management Companies webpage.

**Inter-district Agreements** may be between a public and private school or between two public schools and describe meal services provided for an agreed upon fixed price per meal. Inter-district Agreements are also considered vended meal agreements.

**Vended Meal Agreements** exist between public/private schools or Residential Child Care Institutions and a commercial enterprise or nonprofit organization. In this case, the vendor is a merchandiser of complete meals and/or meal components which are sold at a set fixed price per meal/meal component.

Inter-district agreements, vendor agreements, and the FSMC/Vendor Fact Sheet must be approved by OSPI CNS prior to filing claims in WINS.

Failure to submit an **approved and executed** FSMC contract, inter-district agreement, vended meal agreement(s), and approved FSMC/Vendor Fact Sheet in WINS prior to August 30, 2021, may result in the denial of the meal reimbursement and the termination of USDA food deliveries.

If you have questions regarding FSMC or vended meal agreements, please email [Jeff Booth, Audit Manager](#).

## Adult Meal Prices

It is recommended LEAs set an adult meal price to allow teachers, administrators, and parents to demonstrate their support of the Child Nutrition Programs by occasionally eating with their students.

- The price for adult meals must be set high enough to cover the actual cost of the meal, including food, labor, supplies, and indirect cost rate, if applicable.
- The adult lunch price must be the actual cost (as described above) or the price charged to students paying the full meal price, plus the value of federal reimbursement for paid student meals (currently \$0.33) and the USDA Food Value (currently about \$.3700).
- Federal reimbursement rates and the USDA Food Value are released in July of each year, therefore, these rates may change.

For additional information, please review [the Adult Meal Pricing Reference Sheet](#).

## Audit Requirements

Sponsors are required to maintain records that identify all federal funds expended and recorded on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA). Such funds shall be identified by their unique Catalog of Domestic Federal Assistance (CFDA). The CFDA number for NLSLP is 10.555 and for SBP is 10.553. The SSO is included in the NLSLP and SBP and uses the same CFDA number.

At the end of the school fiscal year OSPI CNS will provide the Federal Award Identification Numbers (FAINs) to sponsors to help complete the SEFA for Child Nutrition Programs. Sponsors must make grant records available for review and/or audit by officials of federal agencies, State Auditor's Office, Government Accountability Office, and OSPI or designee.

Sponsors expending \$750,000 or more in federal funds from all federal sources combined in any fiscal year must receive an audit in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F. Audits must be:

- Completed within nine months of the end of that fiscal year, and
- Submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC\_ by the earlier of 30 days following receipt of the completed audit or nine months following the end of the fiscal year.

**The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) extended the filing timeline of the 2020 Single Audit report with the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC).** For sponsors that received COVID-19 grant funding with original audit report due dates between October 1, 2020 and

June 30, 2021, OMB granted an extension for up to three (3) months beyond the normal due date to complete and submit the Single Audit reporting package to the FAC.

If a tribe or tribal organization opts to not make the reporting information publicly available on the FAC website in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F Section 200.512(b)(2), a copy of the data collection form and reporting package must be submitted to CNS.

If you have questions regarding audits, please email [Jeff Booth, Audit Manager](#).

## INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact your program specialist, listed above. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

Tennille Jeffries-Simmons  
Chief of Staff

T.J. Kelly  
Chief Financial Officer  
Financial Services

Leanne Eko  
Director  
Child Nutrition Services

CR:ln

Attachment 1: SSO Application Information

Attachment 2: Application Checklist for Sponsors Intending to Operate SSO

### **Assurance Statement**

*The Sponsor hereby agrees that it will comply with: i. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.); ii. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.); iii. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794); iv. Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.); v. Title II and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 as amended by the ADA Amendment Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 12131-12189); vi. Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency." (August 11, 2000); vii. All*

*provisions required by the implementing regulations of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) (7 CFR Part 15 et seq.); viii. Department of Justice Enforcement Guidelines (28 CFR Parts 35, 42 and 50.3); ix. Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) directives and guidelines to the effect that, no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Program applicant receives Federal financial assistance from USDA; and hereby gives assurance that it will immediately take measures necessary to effectuate this Agreement. x. The USDA non-discrimination statement that in accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs).*

*This assurance is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all Federal financial assistance, grants, and loans of Federal funds, reimbursable expenditures, grant, or donation of Federal property and interest in property, the detail of Federal personnel, the sale and lease of, and the permission to use Federal property or interest in such property or the furnishing of services without consideration or at a nominal consideration, or at a consideration that is reduced for the purpose of assisting the recipient, or in recognition of the public interest to be served by such sale, lease, or furnishing of services to the recipient, or any improvements made with Federal financial assistance extended to the Program applicant by USDA. This includes any Federal agreement, arrangement, or other contract that has as one of its purposes the provision of cash assistance for the purchase of food, and cash assistance for purchase or rental of food service equipment or any other financial assistance extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this assurance.*

*By accepting this assurance, the Sponsor agrees to compile data, maintain records, and submit records and reports as required, to permit effective enforcement of nondiscrimination laws and permit authorized USDA personnel during hours of program operation to review and copy such records, books, and accounts, access such facilities and interview such personnel as needed to ascertain compliance with the nondiscrimination laws. If there are any violations of this assurance, the Department of Agriculture, FNS, shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this assurance. This assurance is binding on the Sponsor, its successors, transferees and assignees as long as it receives assistance or retains possession of any assistance from USDA.*

*OSPI provides equal access to all programs and services without discrimination based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at 360-725-6162/TTY: 360-664-3631; or P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200; or [equity@k12.wa.us](mailto:equity@k12.wa.us).*