



Summer Food Service Program Information Sheet—Maine



This summer, the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Boston Office of Multifamily Housing is partnering with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to administer their Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). To help SFSP reach their 2015 goal of 200 million meals served nationwide, HUD is seeking capable and cooperative multifamily developments in Maine to become a SFSP site, partnering with local sponsors and community volunteers in your state throughout the summer to serve meals to children and teens in need and reduce the nutrition gap between school and summer. In order to make an impact this summer we are undertaking this outreach now with a goal of identifying suitable sites by April of this year.

WHAT IS THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM (SFSP)?

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federally funded, state-administered program that provides meals to children and teens 18 years and younger during the summer. SFSP is designed to ensure that low-income children and teens, who typically receive free and reduced lunch during the school year, do not go without nutritious meals during summer months. A lack of nutrition during the summer may set up a cycle for poor performance once school begins again and make children more prone to illness and other health issues.



In the summer of 2014, SFSP served 187 million meals to kids in need. In the Northeast region alone, there were 631 SFSP sponsors and 4,612 meal sites, serving over 24.2 million meals. SFSP has a 2015 goal of 200 million meals served nationwide, and USDA needs multifamily developments like yours to become sites so that more children and teens in your state can take advantage of this program.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

State agencies, with the help of federal funds, administer the program and communicate with the USDA. Sponsors partner with sites to run the program and communicate with the State agency.

Schools, local government agencies, camps, faith-based and other non-profit community organizations may be SFSP sponsors. Sites, the physical locations where sponsors serve SFSP meals, should be located in low-income areas or serve primarily low-income children.

WHY SHOULD MY DEVELOPMENT BECOME A SITE?

HUD-insured and assisted multifamily developments are important untapped resources that can play a critical role in reaching the 2015 goal set by the SFSP. Because of their detailed knowledge of their tenants, community ties, and care and concern for their residents and communities, experienced owners and management teams are uniquely situated to host successful SFSP sites.

By opening up your doors and providing a location that is close to the children and teens that need it most, your HUD-insured and assisted development can help sponsors in your local community to close the nutrition gap and provide meals throughout the summer.

HOW DOES MY DEVELOPMENT BECOME A SITE?

If you are interested in learning more about how your multifamily development can participate in this initiative, please contact:

USDA — Jan Kallio, 617-565-6299, jan.kallio@fns.usda.gov; or
HUD — Carmen Hicks, 617-994-8552, carmen.m.hicks@hud.gov

If your development is ready to become a Summer Food Service Site, please contact your state agency:

Maine NSLP, SFSP

Phone: 207-624-6843 Fax: 207-624-6841

Maine CACFP

Phone: 207-624-7924 Fax: 207-287-6156



COMMON SITE RESPONSIBILITIES

- ⊗ Attend your sponsor's training
- ⊗ Supervise activities and meal service at your site (if applicable)
- ⊗ Manage volunteers
- ⊗ Distribute meals by following SFSP guidelines
- ⊗ Keep daily records of meals served
- ⊗ Store food appropriately
- ⊗ Keep the site clean and sanitary
- ⊗ Help your sponsor promote the program in the community

For additional information about the program, including webinars and toolkits, visit the SFSP website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program-sfsp>.