



State of Arizona  
**Department of Education**

**Tom Horne**  
Superintendent of  
Public Instruction

**CN SFSP# 10-05**

MEMORANDUM

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**To:** School Health & Nutrition Program Sponsors

**From:** Mary Szafranski, Deputy Associate Superintendent  
Arizona Department of Education, Health & Nutrition Services

Holly Mueller, Program Director  
Arizona Department of Education, School Health & Nutrition Programs

**Date:** April 3, 2006

**RE:** 2005 Desert Oasis Awards and USDA Summer Sunshine Awards

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The Arizona Department of Education is pleased to announce that the 2005 Desert Oasis Award applications and the 2005 USDA Summer Sunshine Award applications are now available to all Summer Food Service Program Sponsors. Now is the time to be recognized for all your hard work. We strongly encourage you to submit an application for the Desert Oasis Award if you feel you were successful in any one or more of the following categories:

- Outstanding Outreach
- Magnificent Menus
- Greatest Growth
- Spectacular Staff
- Perfectly Partnered
- Best All Around

In addition to the Arizona Department of Education's annual award recognizing outstanding Summer Food Sponsors, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is also accepting applications for exemplary programs. The categories for the Sunshine Awards include:

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- Successful Community Partnerships
- Innovative Food Banks
- Innovative Ways to Raise Site Participation
- Improved Meal Quality and Creative Menu Ideas
- Advocate for Summer Meals

The application and a detailed description of each category are included with this memo and may also be found on the Summer Food website at: <http://www.ade.az.gov/health-safety/cnp/sfp/>. Your organization may apply for both the Desert Oasis Award and the Sunshine Award. You may also apply for more than one category in each application. In fact, if you believe your organization deserves to be recognized we encourage you to apply for as many awards as possible.

Take a moment to review the attached documents, submit them to ADE and you may receive not only state recognition for a job well done, but also, national publicity for your well-run program!

Please note that all documentation must be turned in to the Arizona Department of Education attention Patricia J. Johnson, 1535 West Jefferson Street, Bin #7, Phoenix, Arizona 85007 by **September 26, 2005**. If you have any concerns or questions regarding this application, please contact your assigned program specialist at (602) 542-8700 for assistance.

Best of luck to all of you and we look forward to receiving many applications showcasing the best Summer Food Service Programs in Arizona.