



Arizona Department of Education
Health & Nutrition Services Division

HNS # 05-2021

MEMORANDUM

To: School Food Authorities, All Sponsors Operating the Child and Adult Care Food Program

From: Melissa Conner, Associate Superintendent

Date: March 17, 2021

Subject: Child Nutrition Program Emergency Operating Costs During COVID-19

Original Signed

This memorandum contains information about additional funding made available to participants of the School Nutrition Programs and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) published implementation guidance for the Child Nutrition Program (CNP) Emergency Operational Costs Programs, as authorized in Sec. 722 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260). Under this authority, FNS is offering additional funds to State agencies administering the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and CACFP to provide eligible program operators with additional reimbursements for emergency operating costs they incurred during the public health emergency from March to June 2020.

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) has submitted an intent to apply for CNP Emergency Operational Cost funds to participate in this reimbursement program. ADE will disperse a one-time payment to all eligible program participants. The amount will be based on a statutory formula established under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Title VII, Chapter 3. For the months of March to June 2020, the ADE will calculate the difference in reimbursement compared to the same month(s) in 2019 then multiply the difference by a factor of .55 (55%). Eligibility is limited to program operators that have maintained their Child Nutrition Programs operating status by filing meal claims for any of the months of September-December 2020. For additional information regarding the eligibility and formula, please refer to the USDA memorandum [SP 06-2021, CACFP 05-2021: Child Nutrition Program Emergency Operating Costs During COVID-19: Implementation Guidance for State Agencies](#).

ADE anticipates that the funds will be disbursed by July 31, 2021. Additional information and webinars regarding the CNP Emergency Operational Cost issuance will be made available during April and May 2021.

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In April 2020, the ADE received Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds which were disbursed to all participants of Child Nutrition Programs that submitted reimbursement claims from March through September 2020. This memorandum serves as notification that these funds were designated to cover the regular reimbursement payment.

Please contact your Program Specialist with questions regarding this guidance. Your assigned specialist can be found at the top of the Sponsor application in CNPWeb. You may also call 602-542-8700, select the appropriate option, for the program's Specialist of the Day.

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