



# Getting Ready for Summer Meals

Updates & New Resources to Reach More NY Kids This Summer

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# Agenda

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- **Summer Meals 101**
  - How it Works
  - New Options for Rural Areas
  - Best Practices
- **Outreach**
- **Additional Trainings & Resources**
- **Q&A**



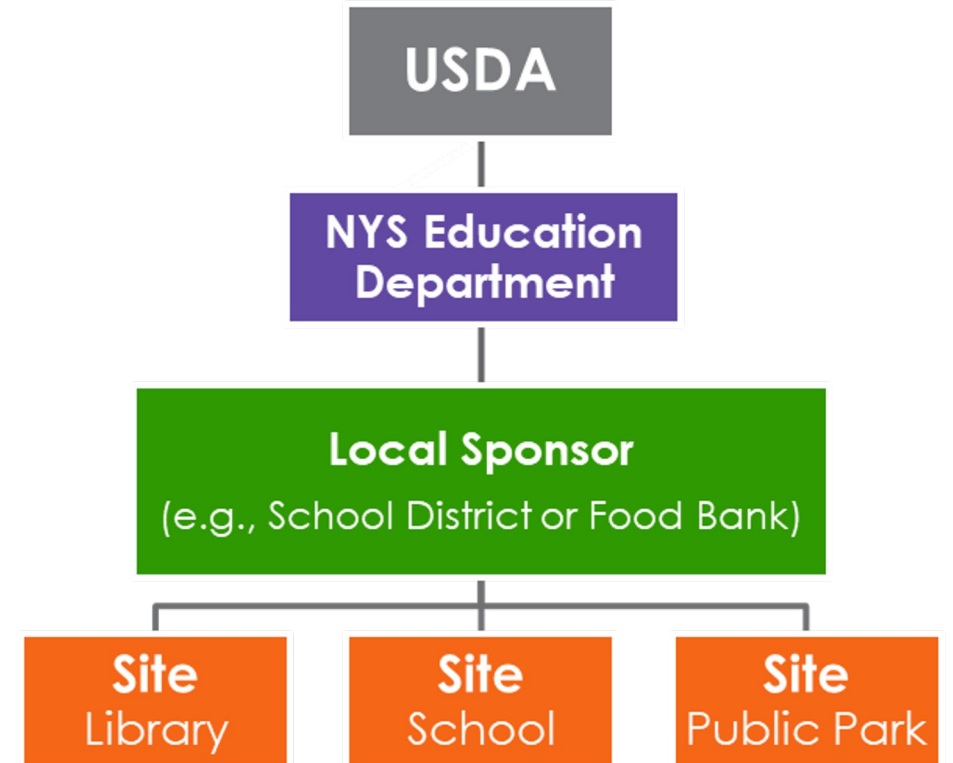


# Summer Meals 101



# How It Works

- The Summer Food Service Program provides healthy meals & snacks for kids and teens when school is out.
- Locally, summer meals operate through:
  - **Sponsors** that manage the program and procure meals.
  - **Sites**, where kids get meals.
- At “open” sites, any child or teen 18 and under can drop by for a meal at no cost. Other site types include camps or “closed-enrolled” sites.





# Summer Meal Sites

Summer meal sites must:

- **Serve meals** (provided by the sponsor) to kids 18 and under, in safe and sanitary conditions
- **Attend required trainings & fulfill other requirements** in their sponsor agreement (e.g., tracking meal counts)
- **Ensure children eat all meals on site**, unless approved for non-congregate meals in rural areas
- **Be located in an eligible low-income area** (for open sites), meaning  $\geq 50\%$  of the area's children qualify for F/RP school meals
  - Can be determined based on the [local school](#) and/or [Census data](#) (we can help!)



# Growing Summer Meals

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- Summer meals are critical for alleviating hunger and summer learning loss, yet pre-pandemic, only **1 in 4** low-income NY kids ate summer meals.
- In many **rural areas**, even fewer kids have access to summer meals.
- **New options** and proven **best practices** can help reach more kids this summer.





# New Options for Rural Areas

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COVID-19 specific waivers have ended; however, there are new flexibilities starting in summer 2023:

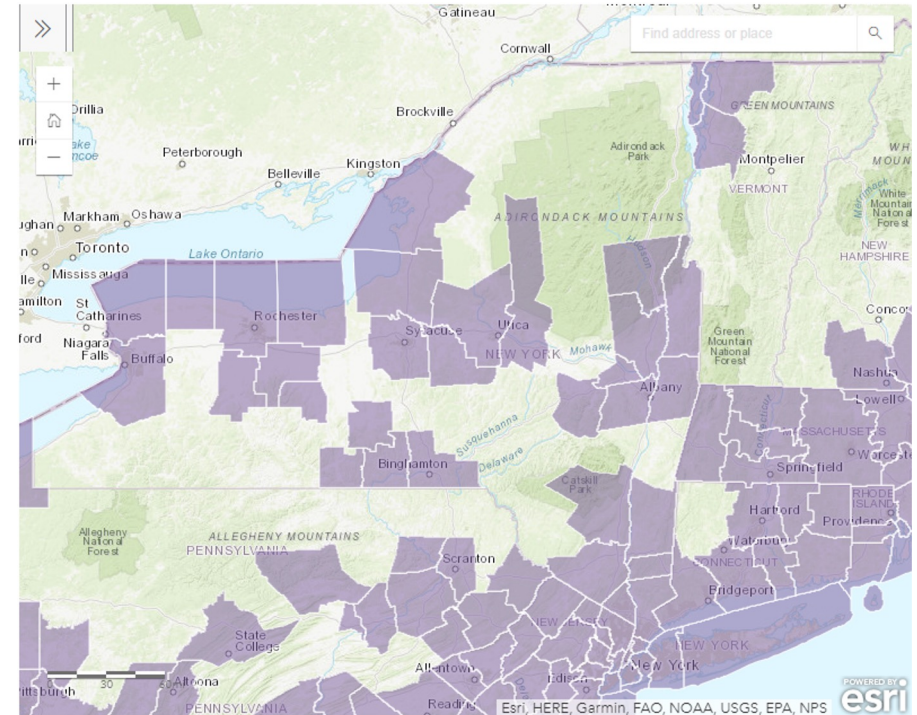
In **rural areas without access to congregate sites**, approved sponsors can serve non-congregate meals, including **grab-and-go** and/or **home delivery**.



# New Options for Rural Areas

Which areas are eligible?

- **Must be rural, including:**
  - Areas designated rural on [USDA's rural designation mapper](#)
  - Other areas if approved by NYSED; sponsors with rural “pockets” that are not qualified based on the map can reach out to NYSED
- **AND without access to congregate meals**



Rural designation = areas not shaded in purple



# New Options for Rural Areas

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What types of meal service are allowable?

- **Meal pick-up** (i.e., grab-and-go, curbside pick-up)
- **Home delivery**
- Sponsors can be approved to provide **up to 7 days-worth** of meals

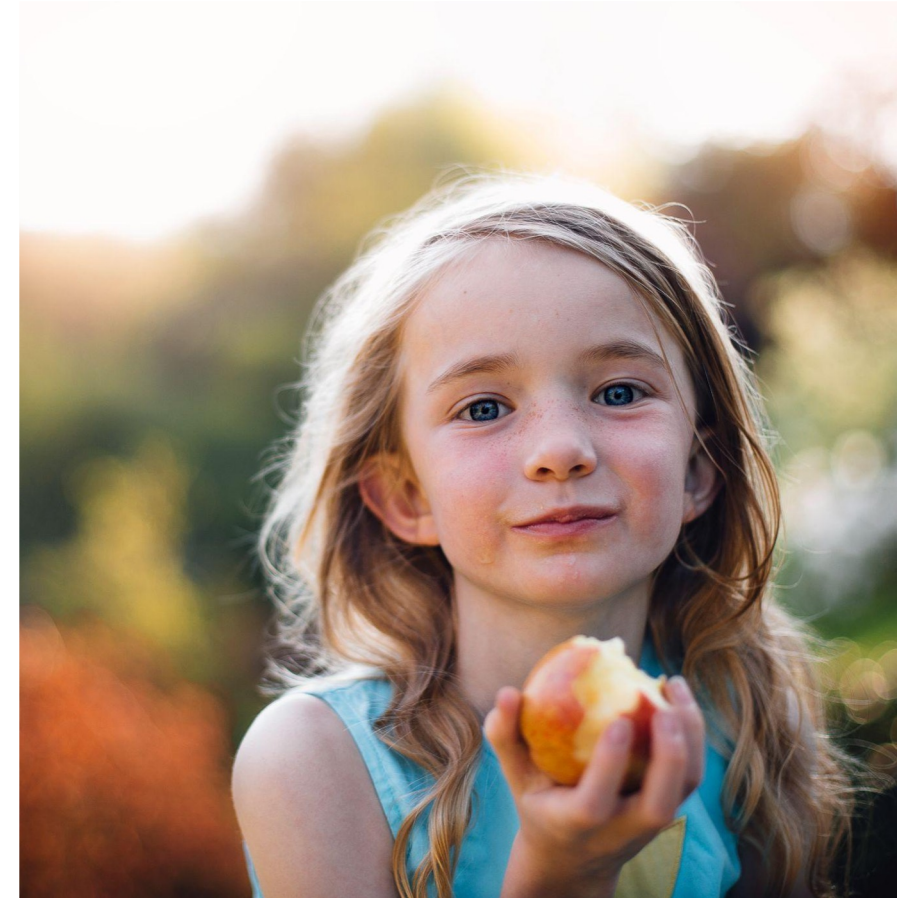
Who can we serve?

- In **area eligible** locations (50% or more FRE), sponsors can serve & claim meals for **all children**
- In **non-area eligible** locations, sponsors can serve & claim meals served to **children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals**

# New Options for Rural Areas

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- Non-congregate options are not applicable to camps or urban areas.
- Sponsors **must first be approved** for non-congregate meal service by NYSED.
- Keep in mind: USDA's guidance for 2023 is just for this summer; 2024 and beyond may look different.
- Learn much more from NYSED's recent training: [Vimeo.com/810665834](https://vimeo.com/810665834)





# Summer Non-Congregate Meal Service Models for Rural Areas: Implementation Guide

The [Implementation Guide](#) includes:

- Considerations for non-congregate meal service
- Meal service models
- Communication strategies
- Tips for partnership
- And much more!



## Successful Non-Congregate Meal Service Models for Rural Areas: Implementation Guide

In approved states beginning summer 2023, Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and NSLP Seamless Summer Option (SSO) sponsors can operate non-congregate programs in rural communities without access to a congregate meal site. Find more information in [USDA's Implementation Guidance for Summer 2023 Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas](#).

This resource outlines effective models for non-congregate meal service. Use this guide to find strategies and tactics to execute a successful non-congregate summer meals program in your rural community.

*Please reach out to your state agency to confirm the availability of non-congregate meal service and allowable models. Note: States are not required to make the non-congregate option available this summer. State agencies had to submit a plan to USDA for approval by April 1, 2023 to allow non-congregate meal service in summer 2023.*

### Sections of this Implementation Guide

- [Definitions](#)
- [Considerations for Non-Congregate Meal Service](#)
- [Meal Distribution Models](#)
  - [Drive Thru or Curbside Pick-Up](#)
  - [Walk-Up Distribution](#)
  - [Mobile Route Distribution](#)
  - [Direct Home Delivery](#)
- [Meal Distribution Logistics](#)
- [Communication](#)
- [Partnerships and Additional Services](#)

# Best Practices: Reaching More Kids & Teens

- **Meet kids & families where they already spend time in the summer** (e.g., public pools, parks, libraries, housing communities, community centers).
- **Pair meals with activities** to reduce stigma & make sites more appealing
  - Recreation programs
  - Summer reading programs
- **Consider a mobile route** with multiple stops – view our [pre-pandemic summer meals webinar](#) to learn how Gates-Chili CSD converted a bus for mobile meals!
- Collect & incorporate **feedback from kids & families.**



# Best Practices: Connecting Families with Other Supports

- **SNAP:** [Local NOEP Coordinators](#) provide SNAP outreach & free and confidential application assistance.
- **WIC:** Visit the [WIC Resource Center](#) for easy-to-use outreach resources in English and Spanish.
- **School Meals:** Use our [school meal application toolkit](#) to encourage families to apply.
- **Afterschool Meals:** Consider serving year-round meals if you operate afterschool programs; [learn more here](#).



**Did you know**  
School meal applications can help families and schools with:

- Band instruments
- Grocery benefits
- Technology funding
- Athletics
- Discounted utilities & internet access
- School budget funding
- College application fees
- Fee waivers for SATs & ACTs
- Classroom resources
- Textbooks

**Apply today!**



# Next Steps

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- **Interested in becoming a summer meal site?**
  - Contact a local sponsor using our [directory](#).
- **Interested in becoming a sponsor** in an unserved area?
  - Reach out to NYS Education Department: (518)486-1086 or [cnsfsp@nysed.gov](mailto:cnsfsp@nysed.gov)
  - Deadlines:
    - May 1, 2023 for new sponsor applications
    - June 1, 2023 for experienced sponsor renewals
- **Need help** planning for this summer?
  - [Reach out to us](#) or your [CN representative](#) at NYSED.

# Outreach

**Summer Fun and  
Summer Meals!**

**Kids and  
Teens Eat  
Free!**



# Texting Hotline

- Families across the state can find summer meal sites by texting “Food” or “Comida” to 304-304.
- The texting line automatically updates as meal sites open or close.



A purple graphic with a yellow border. It features a carton of orange juice on the left, a large strawberry on the right, and a head of broccoli at the bottom left. The text is centered and reads: "TEXT 'FOOD' TO 304-304 TO FIND FREE MEALS FOR ALL KIDS AND TEENS". At the bottom right is the "NO KID HUNGRY" logo, which includes a silhouette of the state of New York.

**TEXT**  
**'FOOD'**  
**TO 304-304**  
**TO FIND FREE MEALS FOR**  
**ALL KIDS AND TEENS**

**NO KID HUNGRY**



# Additional Outreach Resources

- [Summer Meals Outreach Resource Center](#): updated flyers, social media graphics & more!
- [NYSED Resource Order Form](#)
  - Sponsors and community partners can **bulk order flyers at no cost**.
  - [How-to Video](#) for requesting materials
- [Summer Meals Marketing Toolkit](#): customizable materials, PSA, template language & more



# Additional Trainings & Funding Opportunities



# No Kid Hungry Summer Meals Webinar Series

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- **Spread the Word: Summer Meals and Summer Pandemic EBT Outreach and Promotion**
  - April 25, 3 pm
  - [Register here](#)
- **Strategies to Improve the Summer Meals Experience for Kids and Families**
  - May 23, 3 pm
  - [Register here](#)
- **Year-Round Meals: Tips for Transitioning from Summer to Afterschool Meals**
  - June 20, 3 pm
  - [Register here](#)

Missed earlier sessions? Watch recordings of past events [here](#).



# ICYMI: Recent Trainings & Resources from FRAC

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- **Summer Meals: Getting Started**
  - [Watch the recording here](#)
- **Summer Meals: Planning and Partnerships**
  - [Watch the recording here](#)
- **Summer Meals: Recruiting and Retaining Meal Sites**
  - [Watch the recording here](#)
- **Summer Meals: Developing Menus and Serving High-Quality Meals**
  - [Watch the recording here](#)
- **Pandemic EBT and the Summer EBT Program: 2023 and Beyond with USDA**
  - [Watch the recording here](#)

# No Kid Hungry New York Summer Meals Grant Opportunity

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- **Eligible Applicants:** Schools and community organizations operating the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) or Seamless Summer Option (SSO) in **rural** communities and wish to serve **non-congregate** feeding models.
- **Average Grant Range:** \$10,000 - \$20,000
- **Application Process:**
  - Step 1: Complete [NY Summer Meal Grant Inquiry Form](#) by April 26th
  - Step 2: Invitation to complete an application
- For additional information, please visit the [No Kid Hungry New York website](#).



# Q&A/Discussion



# Appendix



# Hunger Solutions New York is a statewide anti-hunger organization.



We increase **awareness** of, **support** for, and **participation** in federal nutrition assistance programs.

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Community Eligibility Program (CEP)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)



# No Kid Hungry New York works to end childhood hunger in New York.



Using proven, practical strategies, we work with school districts, community organizations, and elected officials to ensure children have access to the healthy food they need, every day.

Check out our resources below:

- [Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\) Resources](#)
- [Managing Costs in School Nutrition Programs](#)
- [SNAP Outreach in Schools Toolkit](#)
- [Proactive Planning for Summer Meals Sponsors](#)



# Nutrition Outreach & Education Program

The Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) offers free and confidential services to connect New Yorkers with SNAP. NOEP also provides referrals to other nutrition assistance programs.

To find a local NOEP Coordinator, visit [FoodHelpNY.org](https://www.foodhelpny.org)

**HUNGER SOLUTIONS NEW YORK** UNITING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO END HUNGER

**FIND FOOD HELP** ▾ **FEDERAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS** ▾ **RESOURCES & ACTION** ▾ **ABOUT US** ▾ **DONATE**

**COVID-19** **CONTACT US**

### Find SNAP help near you

**New York State** **New York City / Long Island**

**Search by Zip code:**

**Search within County:**

Select County ▾

**Submit** **Reset**

Map Satellite

Lake Ontario

NEW YORK

VERMONT

NEW HAMPSHIRE

MASSACHUSETTS

CONNECTICUT

Allegeny National Forest

Green Mountain National Forest

White Mount National Forest

RHC