

Benefits Access: Apply to Sponsor a Summer Meals Site

Advantages

- Sponsoring Summer Meals sites in your community can help reduce demand at your existing food program
- Increasing the number of Summer Meals sites in your community/region improves food security for children
- Sponsoring Summer Meals programs enables you to strengthen your relationship with community-based host sites

Challenges

- Sponsoring Summer Meals sites means that you will be responsible for managing a number of host sites in your community
- You must be able to demonstrate your ability to handle and prepare food, and also have the staff and funding capacity to supervise host sites
- Applications are time-intensive and require significant advanced planning (up to one year in advance for the next summer season)

Steps to Success

1. See USDA guidelines for sponsors to determine your eligibility

- Guidelines can be found here:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/how-become-sponsor>



2. Contact your state agency who administers the Summer Meals program to determine application process

- Process can be found here:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/school-meals-contacts>



3. Submit application to appropriate state agency

- Make sure you have all of the necessary forms and materials gathered and organized to submit with your application, otherwise your application can be delayed



4. If approved, follow necessary procedures and obligations to establish and sustain program

- Meet funding requirements to ensure program sustainability
- Attend trainings
- Locate and recruits histes in your community or region
- Track and record the number of meals served
- Monitor host sites and submit claims for reimbursments
- Arrange for meals to be sdelivered or prepared at host sites
- Train and supervise staff and volunteers
- Provide trainings for host sites