



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Sponsors

**FROM:** Cheryl Resha, Education Manager  
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

**DATE:** March 15, 2010

**SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum #06C-10 and #06H-10  
Eligibility of Haitian Refugees for the Child Nutrition Programs**

The United States Department of Agriculture has received inquiries about the eligibility of children who were evacuated to the United States as result of the earthquake in Haiti. The National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), **Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)** and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) do not require lawful presence in the United States prior to receiving a federal benefit and refugee children are eligible for meal benefits if they enroll in a participating school or institution.

**Determining Eligibility for the CACFP**

Child and adult care institutions that require eligibility information can receive certification of the child's or adult's homeless status from the agency that assisted with the evacuation or is providing shelter. If the child is not residing in an emergency shelter, the institution should have an adult living with the child complete an income eligibility form indicating that the child is homeless. No further information is required to certify that child's eligibility.

**Certifying Homeless Children Residing with another Household and How it Impacts the Host Family**

A child or family may temporarily reside with another household and still be considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. In these cases, the household size and income of the host family is not taken into consideration in determining the free meal eligibility for the child(ren) designated as homeless. Additionally, when a host family applies for free and reduced price meals for their own children, the host family may include the homeless family as household members if the host family provides financial support to the homeless family, such as shelter, utilities, clothing or food. In such cases, the host family must also include any income received by the homeless family. The child care institution determines eligibility for the host family in the traditional manner. However, free meal eligibility for the homeless child is based on the documentation provided by the homeless liaison or other source, even when the child is included on the host family's income eligibility form.

If there are any questions about this information, contacts are as follows:

Day Care Center Sponsors: Susan Boyle at 860-807-2074, Celia Cordero at 860-807-2076 or Benedict Onye at 860-807-2080. Day Care Home Sponsors: Susan Bohuslaw at 860-807-2073.

CR:shb

Important: This is a numbered Operational Memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain in a binder for your future reference. Operational Memoranda are also posted on the Child Nutrition website at: <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2626&q=321576>