



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Family Day Care Home Sponsors

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

DATE: January 11, 2011

SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum #05H-11
Child Nutrition Reauthorization 2010: Area Eligibility for Family Day Care Homes

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (the Act), Public Law 111-296, was signed into law by President Obama on December 13, 2010. The Act modifies the requirements for using area eligibility data to make tiering determinations for family day care homes participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance on the implementation of this modification in CACFP.

Section 121 of the Act amends section 17(f)(3) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766(f)) to allow family and group day care homes to be classified as tier I for purposes of reimbursement under CACFP if the home is located in an area served by *any* public school in which at least 50 percent of the enrolled children are certified eligible for free and reduced-price school meals. Previously, only the enrollment of the local public *elementary* school could be used to determine tier I eligibility. This provision is retroactively effective to October 1, 2010.

Since Federal Regulations do not specify a definition of “elementary school” in the law, states may define “elementary” in the way the term is typically used in the State. In Connecticut, the term “elementary” is used to reflect schools from prekindergarten through Grade 8. Therefore, there is minimal change from the listing previously distributed with Operational Memorandum #05H-10 dated 2/11/10. The additional schools are highlighted on the attached list.

To facilitate implementation of this provision, attached is current area eligibility data for all public middle and high schools in the State. Sponsoring organizations are required to re-evaluate the classification of all tier II homes and reclassify homes that now qualify for tier I rates using the expanded public school data. Further, homes reclassified as tier I using the expanded public school data may be eligible to receive the higher tier I reimbursement rates for all meals served from October 1, 2010, to the day of reclassification as a tier I home.

Sponsoring organizations must submit amended claims for reimbursement for October, November, and December 2010 to the State agency by February 28, 2011.

Questions may be directed to:

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Attachment

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>