



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Sponsors
FROM: Cheryl Resha, Education Manager *Cheryl Resha*
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education
DATE: April 12, 2011
**SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum #08C-11 and #10H-11
Eligibility of Children Evacuated from Japan and Bahrain**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance on determining eligibility of children whose families have been moved to the United States in the wake of the recent natural disasters (earthquakes and tsunami) in Japan and political unrest in Bahrain. This memorandum also provides guidance on providing free or reduced price benefits to the host families of these students, if applicable.

Determining Eligibility for the Child and Adult Care Program (CACFP)

Sponsors and institutions in the CACFP that require eligibility information can accept certification of the child'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.

Determining Eligibility for Host Families

A child or family may temporarily reside with another household and still be considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.). 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 by the local education agency's (LEA's) liaison.

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 appropriate child care institution would then determine 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 free and reduced price meal application.

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 folder 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>