



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

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

DATE: February 15, 2012

SUBJECT: **Operational Memorandum #04C-12**
I. School Area Eligibility Data for At-Risk After School Meals Programs
II. Effects of Busing on Area Eligibility in the CACFP

I. School Area Eligibility Data for At Risk After School Meals Programs

Attached for your information is the current list of area eligible schools for At Risk After School Meals Programs (e.g., at risk snack/supper programs). This list includes schools where 50% or more of the enrolled children are eligible for free or reduced price meals in the National School Lunch Program in the month of October 2011. The new school data is effective **February 1, 2012**, and would impact:

- programs initiating an at risk after school snack/supper program; and
- the re-determination of programs whose current eligibility was based on October 2006 school data distributed in 2007.

The new list is based on school data from the month of October 2011 and reflects additions and deletions of schools since last year.

The following towns and schools have been added to the list since last year:

<u>Town</u>	<u>School(s)</u>
Derby	Derby High School
East Haven	D.C. Moore School
	Joseph Melillo Middle School
Enfield	Enfield Street School
	Hazardville Memorial School
Groton	Mary Morrison School
Manchester	Manchester High School
Meriden	Thomas Hooker School
Middletown	Spencer School
Naugatuck	Hillside Intermediate School
Stamford	Cloonan School
	Davenport Ridge School
	Dolan School
	Rippowam Middle School
	Roxbury School
	Springdale School
	Stillmeadow School
	Toquam Magnet School
	Turn of River School

The following towns and schools have been added to the list since last year (continued):

Stratford	Lordship School
Vernon/Rockville	Northeast School
West Hartford	Charter Oak School

The following towns and schools have either closed or no longer meet the 50 percent enrollment requirements for area eligibility:

<u>Town</u>	<u>School(s)</u>
Bloomfield	Laurel School
Danbury	Ellsworth Avenue School Shelter Rock School
East Hartford	Sunset Ridge School
Enfield	Thomas G. Alcorn School
Greenwich	Hamilton Avenue School
Groton	Catherine Kolnaski Elementary School
Hamden	Hyde Leadership School
Hartford	Burns School SAND Everywhere School
Killingly	Killingly Intermediate School
Naugatuck	Salem School
New Haven	James Hillhouse High School Vincent Mauro Math and Science
Waterbury	Barnard School Brooklyn Elementary School

II. Effects of Busing on Area Eligibility in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has noted that a potential barrier to at risk program participation can arise when school children in public school systems are assigned (by way of busing) to a school outside the attendance area of their neighborhood school.

Busing can have the effect of causing a site located in an area in which poor economic conditions exist to be designated as ineligible based on enrollment data which has been adjusted to reflect student reassignments. This situation may occur in any program in which site eligibility is based on the percentage of children eligible for free and reduced-price meals in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP); it is especially significant to sites applying to participate in the Summer Food Service Program, the **At Risk Afterschool Meals Program under the CACFP**, and the Seamless Summer Option and the Afterschool Snack Program under the NSLP. This is because the eligibility of meal service sites for these situations is generally associated with the neighborhood school where the children live rather than where children actually attend school.

To address this issue, USDA has determined that **in situations where public school districts routinely bus children from their neighborhood school to other schools, site eligibility based on school data may be determined using one of two methods.** The program sponsor may determine eligibility based on the enrollment/attendance data obtained for:

- the school the children attend and are bused to; or
- the school the children would have attended were it not for the district's busing policy (the neighborhood school where the children live).

Program sponsors may determine a site to be area eligible in situations as described above only if the school food authority is able to document the percentage of children eligible for free and reduced-price meals at each school before and after students are reassigned. The same method of determining site eligibility must be used for all sites participating under that program sponsor to avoid duplicate counting. **In all cases involving district-wide busing, the Child Nutrition Unit should be contacted for guidance.**

Please contact Susan Boyle at 860-807-2074, Celia Cordero at 860-807-2076 or Benedict Onye at 860-807-2080 if you have any questions about this information.

CR:shb

Attachment