



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

FROM: John Frassinelli, Chief
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

DATE: February 10, 2014

SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum #04C-14
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 2013. The new school data is effective **February 1, 2014**, 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 2008 school data distributed in 2009.

The new list is based on school data from the month of October 2013 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>
Bristol	Stafford School
Danbury	Shelter Rock School Stadley Rough School
East Hartford	Governor William Pitkin School
East Haven	Joseph Melillo Middle School Overbrook School
Enfield	Hazardville Memorial School
Hartford	Achievement First Hartford
Killingly	Killingly Intermediate School
Manchester	Martin School
Middletown	Snow School
New Haven	Clinton Avenue School
Norwalk	Tracey School
Sprague	Sayles Elementary School
Stamford	Cloonan School Stillmeadow School
West Haven	Carrigan 5/6 Elementary School Harry M. Bailey Middle School Washington 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>
Enfield	Enfield Street School
Hamden	Shepherd Glen School
Hartford	Bellizzi Middle School
Meriden	Thomas Hooker School
Naugatuck	City Hill Middle School
Norwalk	Roton Middle School West Rocks Middle School
Stamford	Toquam Magnet School
Stratford	Lordship School
West Hartford	Charter Oak 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.

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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, Benedict Onye at 860-807-2080 or Terese Maineri at 860-807-2145 if you have any questions about this information.

JF:shb

Attachment

Important: This is a numbered Operational Memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain in a binder for future reference. Operational Memoranda are also posted on the Child Nutrition Web site at <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2626&q=333794>.