

ASPHN January 9, 2024 Farm to ECE Webinar

Farm to Child and Adult
Care Food Program
(CACFP): Basics,
Practicalities, and
Innovations



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June 11-13, 2024
Farm to ECE Convening!



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Care Food Program
(CACFP): Basics,
Practicalities, and
Innovations

Katina Kefalas, USDA, Brenda Tourangeau, ECE Provider, Laura Butler, FCC Provider, & Melanie Tran, Farm to ECE Specialist

Farm to CACFP: Basics, Innovations, and Practicalities

Katina Kefalas
Program Analyst
CACFP Policy Branch
USDA FNS









- Overview of CACFP
- Benefits of CACFP
- How CACFP can be used to support Farm to ECE efforts

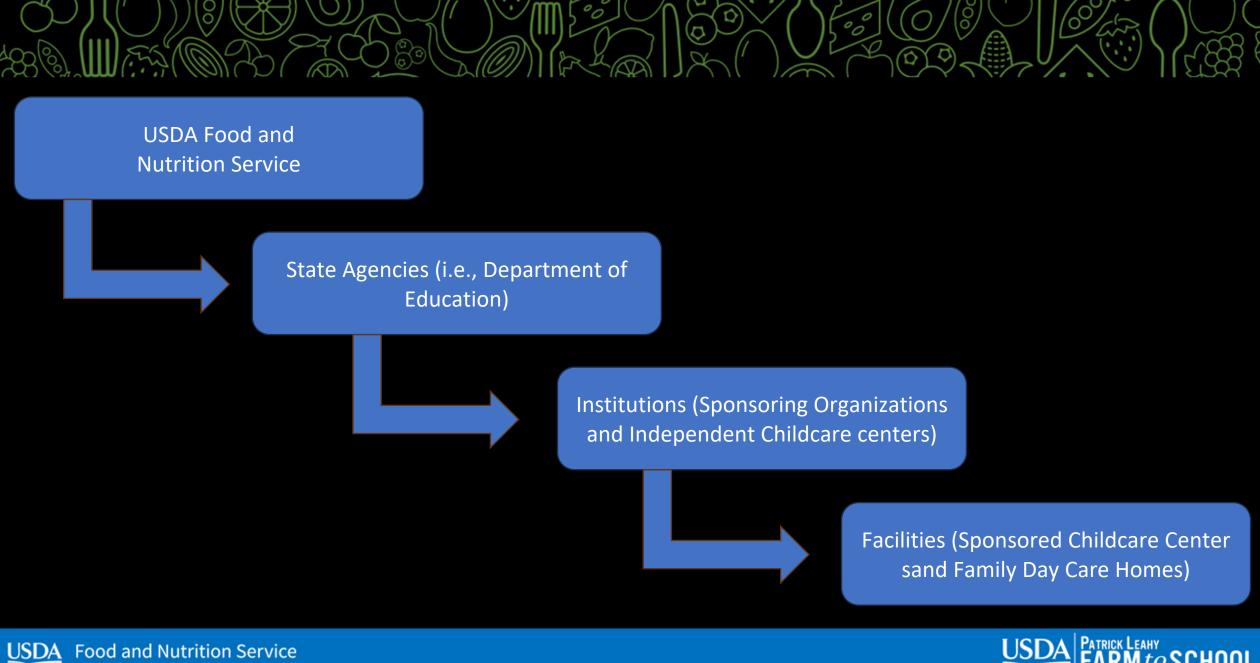


Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

- Emergency Shelters
- Adult Day Care Centers
- At-Risk Afterschool Programs
- Outside School Hour Programs
- Child Care Centers
- Family Day Care Homes











Meal Pattern and Reimbursement Rates

Child and Adult Care Food Program Breakfast [Select the appropriate components for a reimbursable meal]								
	Minimum quantities							
Food components and food items ¹	Ages 1-2	Ages 3-5	Ages 6-12	Ages 13-18 ² (at-risk afterschool programs and emergency shelters)	Adult participants			
Fluid Milk ³	4 fluid ounces	6 fluid ounces	8 fluid ounces	8 fluid ounces	8 fluid ounces			
Vegetables, fruits, or portions of both ⁴	1/4 cup	½ cup	1/2 cup	1/2 cup	1/2 cup			
Grains (oz. eq.) ⁵⁶⁷⁸	½ ounce equivalent	½ ounce equivalent	1 ounce equivalent	1 ounce equivalent	2 ounce equivalents			



CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP)

Per Meal Rates in Whole or Fractions of U.S. Dollars

Effective from July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024



CENTERS		BREAKFAST	LUNCH AND SUPPER ¹	SUPPLEMENT
CONTIGUOUS	PAID	0.38	0.40	0.10
	REDUCED PRICE	1.98	3.85	0.58
	FREE	2.28	4.25	1.17





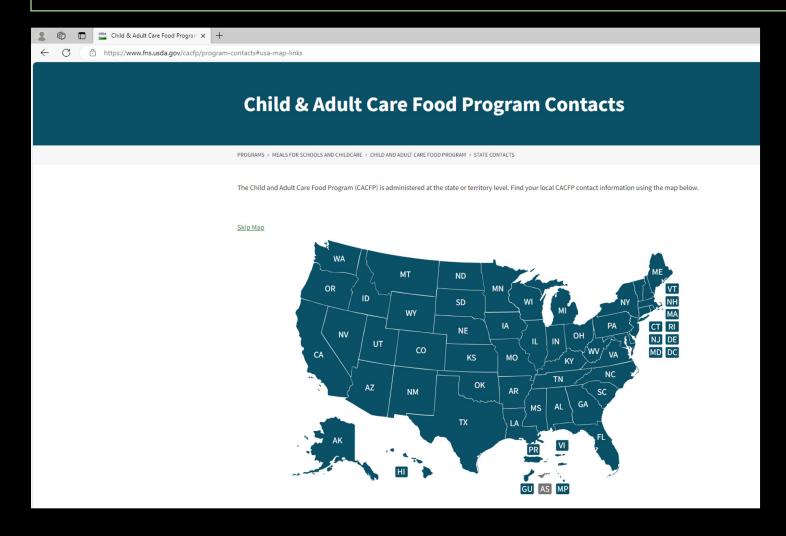
Benefits of CACFP

- Nutritious meals
- Encourages good nutrition habits early
- Improves the quality of childcare
- Provides funding, nutrition education, training, and support





CACFP Program Contacts









How CACFP can Support Farm to ECE

- Local Sourcing
- Nutrition and Agricultural Education





Sourcing Local







Nutrition and Agricultural Education







USDA Resources and Funding

- Farm to CACFP Webpage
 - Local Foods in CACFP Policy Memo
 - Procuring Local Foods for Child Nutrition Programs
 - Farm to Preschool Fact Sheet
 - Grow It! Try It! Like It!
 - ...and much more!
- The Dirt!
- The Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grant Program









Farm to School Specialists









Thank You!

Please contact SM.FN.FarmToSchool@usda.gov

for any questions for the Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program





Milton Family Community Center























Imagination Island

Farm To ECE

Introducing a Pumpkin



Unloading CSA Shares









Exposure to Tools



Love those Salad Turnips





Resources

Shelburne Farms

Vermont Farm to School

National Farm to School Network

You can find our story and many others about the success of Farm to School!!

Hello Farm to ECE







10 Cents a Meal for Michigan's Kids and Farms is administered in collaboration between MDE, MDARD, Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, and MSU Center for Regional Food Systems.





Center for Regional Food Systems

20% Michigan Foods by 2020



Advancing Michigan Good Food

AGENDA PRIORITIES

12. Implement a reimbursement program to provide an additional 10 cents per school meal, as a supplement to existing school meal funds, in order to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables.

GROW JOBS AND KIDS WITH MICHIGAN FOOD IN SCHOOLS

Turkey-apple-spinach wraps anyone? Sounds like lunch on the town, but in fact turkey-apple-spinach wraps were one of two menu choices recently at Platte River Elementary School in northwest Michigan's Benzie County.

The sweetness of the locally produced Honeycrisp apples in the wraps was one trick to getting the spinach into the kids, said Daniel Marbury. He's one of two national FoodCorps members working for a year with the region's schools to spice up menus, connect with local farm vendors, and provide nutrition education support. "One of the





WHY 10 CENTS MATTERS

10 CENTS FRAMEWORK

PROBLEM STATEMENTS

CHILDREN - The majority of Michigan children eat legumes infrequently and are not meeting the USDA daily fruit and vegetable requirement.

The majority of Michigan children are not exposed to a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, and legumes.

The federal reimbursement rate for school meals is too low for FSDs to purchase large varieties and quantities of fruits, vegetables, and legumes from diverse-scale Michigan suppliers. **SUPPLIERS** - The school food supply chain has many barriers to entry for small- and medium-scale Michigan suppliers.

Small- and medium-scale Michigan suppliers face many challenges to business viability.

KEY TERMS

FSDs means school food service directors.

Michigan suppliers means growers, producers, processors, distributors, food hubs. and other food and agriculture businesses.

Fruits, vegetables, and legumes means whole or minimally processed fruits, vegetables, and legumes that are grown in Michigan and, if minimally processed, are also processed in Michigan.

INTERVENTION STATEMENT

Awarded food service programs receive match reimbursement funding to purchase and serve Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and legumes.

SHORT

TERM

RESULTS

☑ RESULTS FOR CHILDREN

FSDs have additional funding for school meals.

FSDs purchase and serve a larger quantity of fruits, vegetables, and legumes.

FSDs purchase and serve a wider variety of fruits, vegetables, and legumes.

FSDs develop new relationships with Michigan suppliers.

School meal programs raise awareness of local fruits, vegetables, and legumes.

Children choose, try, and like Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and legumes.

Children eat more fruits, vegetables, and legumes.

Children establish healthier eating habits.

Children are healthier.

RESULTS FOR SUPPLIERS

Funds are available for the purchase of Michigangrown fruits, vegetables, and legumes.

Michigan suppliers, including small- and medium-scale suppliers, sell more Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and legumes to school meal programs.

Funds allocated leverage additional purchases from Michigan suppliers.

Michigan suppliers increase their sales to schools.

Michigan suppliers increase their profitability.

Michigan suppliers recirculate profits in the local economy.

Michigan's local economies are stronger.





Credit: MSU Center for Regional Food

Systems

GOALS OF 10 CENTS A MEAL (WIN-WIN MESSAGING, TOO)

- Improve daily nutrition and eating habits for Michigan children in school and child care settings.
- Invest in Michigan agriculture and related local food business economy.



Photo by: Sarah Rypma



WHAT IS 10 CENTS A MEAL?

A state-funded program
 matches what schools, early care
 and education sites, and other
 non-school sponsors spend on
 Michigan-grown fruits,
 vegetables, and dry beans with
 grants of up to 10 cents per meal.



ELIGIBILITY

Any sponsor feeding children with a USDA child nutrition program

- Schools
- Early Care and Education sites
- After-school programs,
- Residential youth programs
- Community organizations

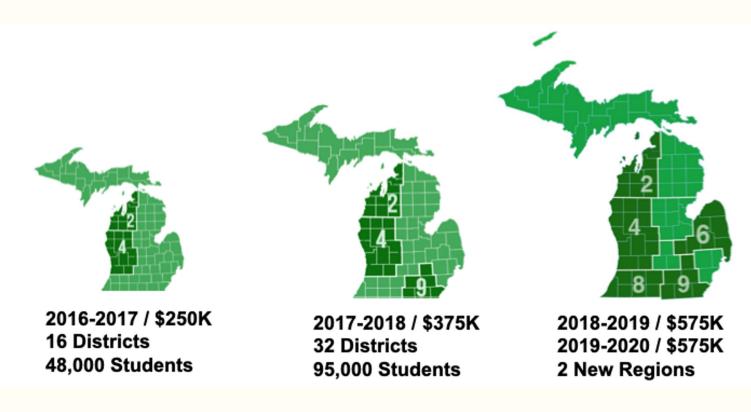


WHAT IS 10 CENTS A MEAL?

\$9.3 million dollar investment from the state of Michigan in 2023-2024 program year (for the second year in a row!)



HOW IT STARTED



2020-2021 program year saw expansion statewide and inclusion of non-school sponsors

HOW IT'S GOING

- \$9.3 million dollar state
 program
- Available statewide
- Schools, child care centers, and other nonschool sponsors eligible
- In 22-23 year: Estimated reach of approx.
 590,000 children

HOW DID YOU DO THAT?

- Showing proof of concept
 - Gathering data and telling powerful stories
- Growing champions who believed in the program
 - School Food Service Directors
 - Community Groups
 - Parents
 - Farmers
 - Legislators
- Partnering across organizations





HOW IT WORKS



- 1. Local Food Purchasing
- 2. Marketing and Education Activities
 - 3. Reporting and Evaluation



HOW IT WORKS, CONT.



Prospective grantee applies



Purchase and serve Michigan-grown produce and dry beans, conduct food and nutrition marketing and education

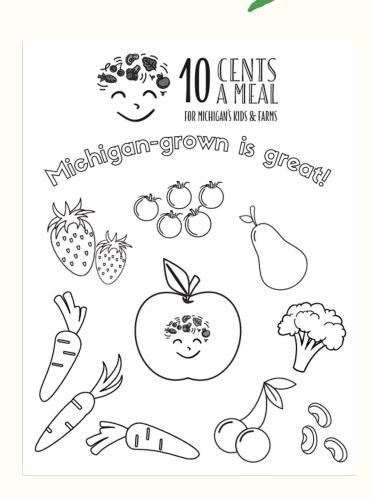
Grantee admins submit invoice data and participate in surveys

Grantees are reimbursed 50% up to their max grant award

 Ex. A \$5,000 grant means \$10,000 in invoice data needs to be submitted to receive the full \$5,000

HOW 10 CENTS A MEAL SUPPORTS FARM TO ECE

- Incentivizes purchasing local foods for CACFP participating ECE sites
 - o Provides money on top of CACFP reimbursement
- Marketing and education activities
 - Gardening with children
 - Cooking activities
 - Nutrition education
 - Promoting local food



ADVANCEMENTS

- Streamlining the application and participation process
- Added capacity among implementation partners
- Navigating expansion among different kinds of Child
 Nutrition Program Users CACFP
- Pilots with a CACFP sponsoring organization Association for Child Development
 - 1st year: 5 Centers (among 2 center owners)
 - 2nd Year: Expanded to 10 Centers and 49 home providers.

CHALLENGES

- Expansion during COVID-19
 - Supply chain issues/local food distribution
- Staffing capacity issues
 - Short staffed
 - Capacity to engage in activities of the program (surveys, sending invoice information, sourcing local food)
- Child care crisis



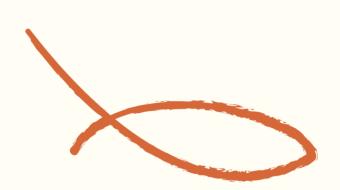
WHAT IS ACD'S 10 CENTS A MEAL PILOT?

The first step in making 10 Cents a Meal more accessible to home providers and centers using a CACFP sponsor.



FUTURE GROWTH

- Expanding availability of the program among those using a CACFP sponsor and participation from other non-school sponsors of USDA Child Nutrition
 Programs (Summer Food Service Program)
- Resource development





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QUESTIONS?







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