

MAY 01, 1998

SUBJECT: Summer Food Service Program Policy Memorandum #10-98:
Single, Permanent Agreement for School Food Authorities Administering the
Child Nutrition Programs

TO: Regional Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All Regions

Section 19(a) of the National School Lunch Act addresses the need to reduce paperwork to the maximum extent possible for State and local education agencies participating in the Child Nutrition Programs. As part of this effort, this memorandum authorizes State agencies to develop a single agreement that can be used for school food authorities (SFAs) that administer the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and/or the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) as well as the school nutrition programs.

Furthermore, State agencies may, at their option, make the agreement with schools sponsoring the SFSP a permanent document, to be amended only as changes occur. This authority is consistent with the provisions of the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program, in which permanent State/local agreements are mandated by law, and the CACFP, which has authorized permanent State/local agreements at the option of the State agency since 1993. State agencies must be aware that, unlike the CACFP, permanent agreements in the SFSP are limited to school sponsors due to their relatively greater administrative stability, their experience in administering institutional feeding programs, and their greater familiarity with the child nutrition programs.

Both CACFP and SFSP continue to have application requirements that are unique to each program and that require periodic updating (in accordance with previous memoranda on three year applications in the CACFP [September 26, 1995] and SFSP Memorandum 98-1 [February 10, 1998]). Therefore, the remainder of the SFA's application to sponsor either CACFP or SFSP must be updated periodically in accordance with these memoranda. However, though application requirements for these programs differ somewhat, SFAs' ability to enter into a single, permanent agreement with the State agency/agencies administering these programs will represent a reduction in paperwork and a re-affirmation of the Department's desire to encourage SFAs' participation in all of the child nutrition programs.

Please contact Ed Morawetz or Melissa Rothstein at (703)-305-2620 if you have any questions regarding implementation of this guidance.

/ORIGINAL SIGNED/

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Director
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