

AUGUST 25, 1995

Subject: Automatic Eligibility for Free Meals in the Summer
Food Service Program (SFSP) for Participants in the
Head Start Program

To: Regional Directors
Special Nutrition Programs
All Regions

This is an addendum to our April 14, 1995, memorandum regarding automatic eligibility for free meals for participants in the Head Start Program. As you know, our original memorandum set forth procedures for implementation of automatic eligibility determinations for Head Start participants to receive free meals without further application through the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Special Milk Program, and the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

In response to several inquiries from the regional offices regarding the effect of this memorandum on the SFSP, we have decided to extend this automatic eligibility to the SFSP in limited situations. Effective September 25, 1995, income-eligible Head Start participants are automatically eligible to participate in the SFSP when the SFSP sponsoring organization has documentation of enrollment of income-eligible Head Start participants provided and certified by the Head Start office. Examples of situations in which this provision could be implemented include: a school food authority sponsoring the SFSP that uses automatic eligibility for Head Start enrollees for school feeding programs; a community action agency that operates several programs, including the SFSP and Head Start; or a local government entity that operates Head Start during the school year and sponsors the SFSP during the summer.

Please refer to our April 14 memorandum (copy attached) for information on documentation and verification for Head Start enrollees. If you have any questions on this policy, please contact Ed Morawetz or Melissa Rothstein at (703) 305-2620.

/ORIGINAL SIGNED/

ALBERTA C. FROST
Director
Child Nutrition Division

Attachment