

USDA Food & Nutrition Service

Special Milk Program (SMP):

Quick Facts



Programs

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

National School Lunch Program

School Breakfast Program

Summer Food Service Program

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

Special Milk Program

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

Nutrition Assistance Block Grants

Commodity Supplemental Food Program

The Emergency Food Assistance Program

Disaster Assistance

Description

- Provides milk to children in schools, childcare institutions and eligible camps that do not participate in other federal child nutrition meal service programs.
- Requires that schools or institutions operate their milk programs on a nonprofit basis and agree to use the federal reimbursement to reduce the selling price of milk to all children.
- Requires participating schools/institutions to offer pasteurized fluid milk (unflavored or flavored) that meet State and local standards. All milk must contain vitamins A and D at levels specified by the Food and Drug Administration.
- Reimburses schools or institutions \$0.1825 for each half pint of milk served for July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009. For children who receive their milk free, the USDA reimburses schools the milk's net purchase price.

Background

- The program is authorized by the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.
- It is administered by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service through State administering agencies and is operated through agreements with school food authorities and institutions.

Participants

- Any child at a participating school, half-day pre-kindergarten/kindergarten program or institution. Children may buy milk or receive it free, depending on the choice of program options.
- Schools in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast programs may also participate and provide milk to children in half-day pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs where children do not have access to the school meal programs.
- 90.2 million half pints were served in FY 2007; 85.7 million in FY 2008.

Budget

- \$14.2 million in FY 2007.
- \$15.1 million in FY 2008.

Contact Information

- For complete information, visit www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/milk or contact your State agency that administers the SMP. View Agency listings at www.fns.usda.gov/cnd, select "Contact Us," then "Child Nutrition Programs."

