



United States
Department of
Agriculture

September 16, 2004

Food and
Nutrition
Service

SUBJECT: Rural Transportation Grants in the Summer Food Service Program
(SFSP)

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

TO: State Directors
Child Nutrition Programs
All States

The Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 authorizes FNS to provide grants in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) for innovative approaches to limited transportation in rural areas. Grants will be made on a competitive basis through a maximum of five eligible State agencies, to no more than sixty institutions, to increase participation at congregate feeding sites.

FNSHQ is developing a notification of grant availability and selection criteria for the award of grants to State agencies. According to statute and subject to appropriation, funds will be made available in Fiscal Years 2006 – 2008. A tentative implementation schedule includes the following steps:

Grant availability announced	December 2004
Due date for State agencies' applications	June 2005
Grantees (State agencies) selected	October 2005
Pilot begins	January 2006

State agencies that intend to submit a grant application should begin considering institutions that might be interested in participating in the pilot. We will provide additional information to you as it becomes available.

STANLEY C. GARNETT
Director
Child Nutrition Division