

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Support Mealtime with the CACFP



HUNGER SOLUTIONS
NEW YORK UNITING POLICIES AND
PROGRAMS TO END HUNGER

QUALITYstarsNYSM

Today's Agenda

- Hunger Solutions New York
- Child Hunger in NYS
- CACFP
- Additional Resources
- Questions & Answers

Hunger Solutions New York is a statewide anti-hunger organization.

We increase **awareness** of, **support** for, and **participation** in federal nutrition assistance programs.

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Community Eligibility Program (CEP)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Summer-EBT

How Do We Help?

- **Technical Assistance**

- Connect with us! We work one-on-one to provide assistance, answer questions, connect you with peers, other organizations and more.

- **Resources**

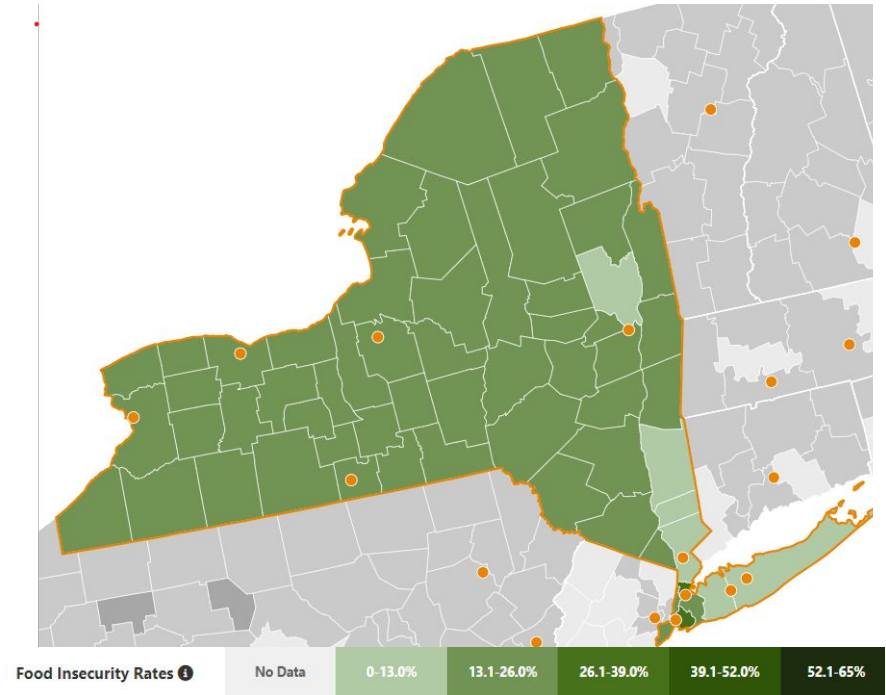
- Use and share our resources, information and best practices to help reach more providers with CACFP information and more.

- **Advocacy**

- Working with partners helps us advocate for investments and inform improvements in child nutrition programs.

Hunger in New York State

Food insecurity is defined as a lack of consistent, dependable access to nutritious foods needed for an active and healthy life.



Source: Feeding America, 2022 [Map the Meal Gap, Child Food Insecurity in New York.](#)

Hunger in New York State

1 in 7 New Yorkers struggle with food insecurity, including **nearly 1 in 5 children**.

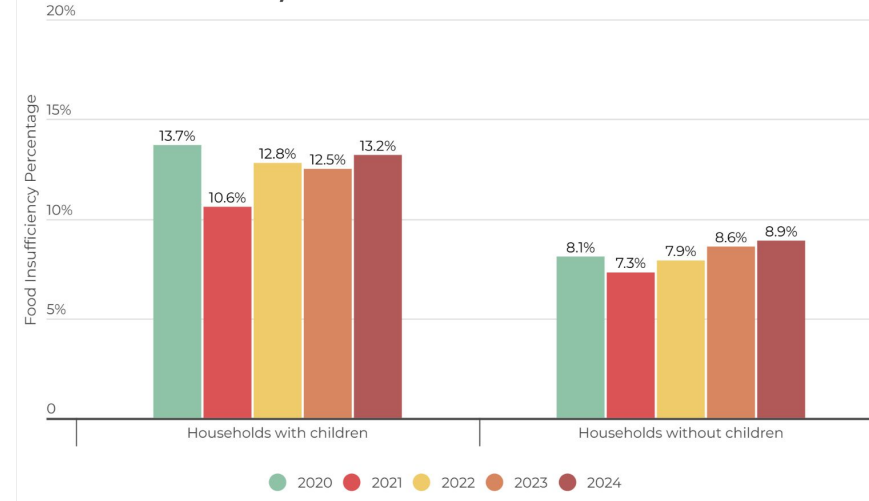
Hunger at **highest point in 5 years**.

- New York's food insecurity rate increased by 36% from 2022-2024 to 2019-2021.

Food insecurity disproportionately impacts communities of color and households with children.

- **Hunger is 1.5x higher** in NY households with children vs those without.

Annual Food Insecurity Among Households with and without Children, New York State



Source: [New York Health Foundation, 2025](#)

Consequences of Food Insecurity

Food insecurity has been shown to:

- Impede physical development
- Impact social, emotional, and cognitive development
- Contribute to poor health outcomes long-term
- Disproportionately impact low-income and marginalized populations.

The **federal nutrition programs** are increasingly vital to safeguard families from hunger.

Source: Food Research and Action Center (2018) [Research Brief: Connections Between Food Insecurity, the Federal Nutrition Programs, and Student Behavior.](#)

Childcare Meals

The Child and Adult Care Food Program:

- **Reimburses** child care providers for healthy food served to kids 12 and under in eligible child care programs.
- **Funded** through the United States Department of Agriculture.
- **Administered** by the NYS Department of Health.
- **Underutilized** across NYS and the nation.

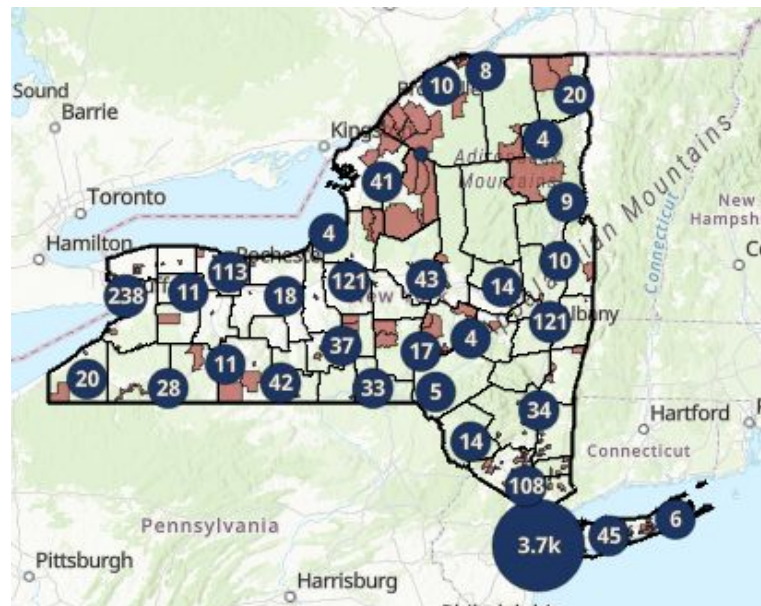
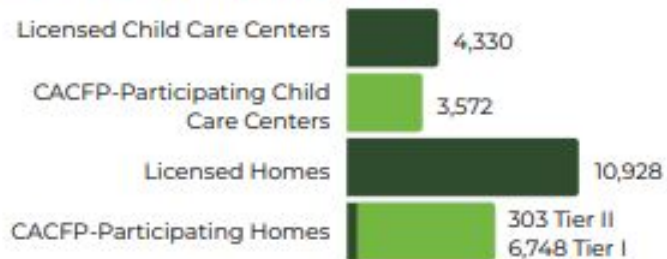


Who is eligible to participate?

- Child Care Centers
 - If for-profit, at least 25% of enrolled children either receive tuition subsidies or are eligible for free or reduced-price meals
- Family & Group Family Day Care Home Providers
- Legally Exempt Providers
- Afterschool Programs*

CACFP in NYS

CACFP in New York



Source: [National CACFP Association, 2026](#), [Child Care Aware of America & NYSDOH, 2025](#)

Indicator of Quality Care



PH4 - Provider promotes the consumption of meals and snacks that meet the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) meal pattern for the ages served.

Benefits of CACFP

- Helps with development of lifelong healthy eating habits.
- Improves nutrition security.
- Offsets the cost of food for providers and families.
- Can lower the cost of care for families.
- Providers can access additional trainings & support.

Joining the **FOOD PROGRAM** is a

WIN for Busy Parents	WIN for Happy Children	WIN for Child Care Providers
Parents SAVE TIME and SAVE MONEY by not having to supply any food.	Children STAY HEALTHY & have BETTER ATTENDANCE at child care.	Providers can LOWER FOOD EXPENSES & still serve HEALTHY, BALANCED MEALS .



Are your children in child care?

Are you a child care provider?

Find out how you or your child care provider can participate in the Food Program.

Put Healthier Food on Your Children's Plates.

Start with the CACFP today!

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

cacfp.org
CACFP is an indicator of quality care.

How It Works

- **Serve** meals compliant with CACFP meal patterns.
- **Track** how many meals are served.
- **Request** reimbursement on a monthly basis.
- Reimbursement provided for up to **1 meal and 2 snacks or 2 snacks and 1 meal** per child per day.
- **Maintain program compliance**, including monitoring and recordkeeping.



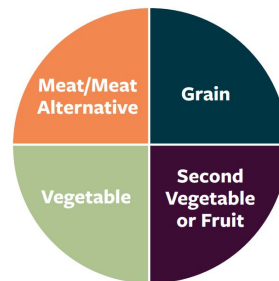
How It Works

Meals and snacks must follow CACFP **meal patterns**.

Sample menus and more available on our [webpage](#).

Meals = 5 components

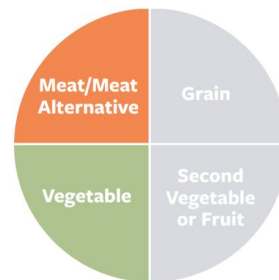
Snacks = 2 components



Fluid Milk



Grilled chicken sandwich on a whole grain bun with carrot sticks, an apple, and 1% milk



Fluid Milk



Hummus, cucumber slices, and water

Meal Reimbursement

- Infants
- Children through age 13
- Children of migrant workers ages 15 and under
- Children with disabilities up to 18 years
- Children ages 13-18 (At-Risk)*

Reimbursement Rates

- Reimbursement rates will **vary** depending on the household income of children served and modality of care.
- CACFP provides reimbursement for **2 meals & 1 snack or 2 snacks & 1 meal per day.**
- Updated **annually by the USDA.**

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP)							
Per Meal Rates in Whole or Fractions of U.S. Dollars							
Effective from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026							
CENTERS		BREAKFAST	LUNCH AND SUPPER ¹		SUPPLEMENT		
CONTIGUOUS STATES	PAID	0.40	0.44		0.11		
	REDUCED PRICE	2.16	4.20		0.63		
	FREE	2.46	4.60		1.26		
ALASKA	PAID	0.62	0.71		0.18		
	REDUCED PRICE	3.65	7.05		1.02		
	FREE	3.95	7.45		2.04		
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS	PAID	0.51	0.57		0.15		
	REDUCED PRICE	2.88	5.58		0.82		
	FREE	3.18	5.98		1.64		
DAY CARE HOMES		BREAKFAST		LUNCH AND SUPPER		SUPPLEMENT	
		TIER I	TIER II	TIER I	TIER II	TIER I	TIER II
CONTIGUOUS STATES		1.70	0.61	3.22	1.94	0.96	0.26
ALASKA		2.72	0.95	5.22	3.15	1.55	0.43
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS		2.19	0.77	4.18	2.52	1.24	0.34
ADMINISTRATIVE REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS OF DAY CARE HOMES				Initial 50	Next 150	Next 800	Each Additional
Per Home/Per Month Rates in U.S. Dollars							
CONTIGUOUS STATES				150	115	89	79
ALASKA				244	186	145	128
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS				195	149	116	102

CACFP Sponsors

- Nonprofit organizations
- For profit organizations (centers only)
- Educational organizations
- Government Agencies: City, County, Tribal, Military

CACFP Sponsors

- Assist with program administration & reimbursement claims.
- Offer training, guidance, monitoring & technical assistance to ensure program compliance.
- Find your local [sponsor online](#) or call the growing up healthy hotline: 1-800-522-5006.

Sites that wish to participate in the CACFP with a sponsoring organization must receive a pre-approval visit from a sponsoring organization.

Meal Planning & Other Resources

- NYSDOH: [How to Apply](#), [CACFP Crediting Handbook](#)
- The Institute for Child Nutrition: [Child Nutrition Recipe Box](#), [CACFP Education & Training](#)
- USDA FNS: [Cookbook for Child Care Centers](#), [Food Buying Guide](#)

Child care providers as trusted messengers

- **WIC:** Help [spread the word](#) about WIC. Individuals can visit [WICHelpNY.org](#) to see if they are eligible **today!**
- **SNAP:** the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (**NOEP**) offers **free & confidential** services to connect New Yorkers with SNAP. To find a local NOEP Coordinator, visit [FoodHelpNY.org](#).
- **Summer Meals:** Families can visit [SummerMealsNY.org](#) to find summer meal sites, outreach materials and more.

Next steps & additional resources

To Apply:

- [Screen for eligibility](#)
- **Homes:** connect with a [sponsor](#) or call 1-800-522-5006
- **Centers:** apply for CACFP
 - Call 1-800-942-3858 or (518) 402-7400
 - E-mail cacfp@health.ny.gov
 - Use the subject line "Outreach Coordinator"

Stay Connected!

Kayla Snyder

CACFP Outreach & Engagement Specialist

518-436-8757 x 106

Kayla.Snyder@HungerSolutionsNY.org

Visit us Online:

HungerSolutionsNY.org

ChildcareMealsNY.org

Funded by NYS OCFS, NYS OTDA, and USDA/FNS. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

©Hunger Solutions New York. All Rights Reserved.