

What is CACFP?

The Child and Adult Food Care Program ([CACFP](#)) provides funding to help child care providers serve healthy meals and snacks to children in their care. CACFP is federally funded and administered by the NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH).

Who is Eligible?

Most child care and school-age child care programs are eligible to participate in CACFP:

- Child Care Centers.
 - If for-profit, at least 25% of enrolled children must receive tuition subsidies or be eligible for free or reduced-price meals.
- Registered family day care providers.
- Licensed group family day care providers.
- Legally exempt or informal providers that receive child care payments from a county or city agency.

CACFP participation aligns with Quality Stars NY's PH4 Criteria for centers & home based providers

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

Next steps

[Screen for Eligibility](#)

To apply:

- Daycare Homes
 - Locate a sponsor [online](#) or by calling the Growing Up Healthy Hotline at 1-800-522-5006
- Daycare Centers
 - Email cacfp@health.ny.gov and use the subject line "Outreach Coordinator."

Additional Resources:

- [New York State Department of Health](#)
- [ChildcareMealsNY.org](#)
- [Reimbursement Rates](#)

Menu Planning:

- [CACFP Healthy Meal Pattern for Children \(Ages 1-18\)](#)
- [CACFP Crediting Handbook](#)
- [USDA Food Buying Guide](#)
- [Child Nutrition Recipe Box: USDA Standardized Recipes](#)
- [USDA Recipes for Healthy Kids: Cookbook for Child Care Centers](#)

Family Style Dining:

- NYSDOH
 - [Serving Meals Family-Style](#)
- USDA
 - [Family Style Meal Service Webpage](#)
 - [Family Style Meal Service Webinar](#)
 - [Implementation guidance](#)
- National CACFP Association
 - [Meal Pattern Minute: Family Style Dining](#)
 - [Family-Style dining tip sheet](#)

Connecting with your Representative:

- [Find your representative](#)
- [National CACFP Association](#)
 - [Blog](#)
 - [Additional resources](#)
- [National CACFP Forum](#)

Farm to CACFP:

The Annual NYAEYC Conference will feature a FARM to ECE track; more information and registration are available on the conference [webpage](#).

- [National Farm to School Network](#)
- [ASPHN - Fruit & Veggie Snack Menu planning tool](#)
- USDA
 - [Factsheet](#)
 - [Grow it, try it, like it!](#) (tailored to family childcare providers)

Questions?

- Connect with your Quality Improvement Specialist about PH4 compliance and more.
- Connect with NYSDOH about eligibility questions, enrollment, and more. Email cacfp@health.ny.gov and use the subject line “Outreach Coordinator.”