




FAQ

Free Summer Meals



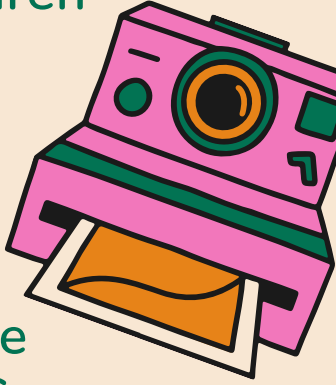
What is the Summer Meals Program?



The Summer Meals Program is a federally funded, state-administered program, which provides children and teens with daily healthy meals. Meals are provided at no cost to youth 18 years old and younger. When school lets out for the summer, millions of youth lose access to school breakfast, lunch, and afterschool snacks that they typically receive during the school year. The Summer Meals Program helps fill this gap by continuing to provide free meals to children who otherwise may not have access. This ensures children remain nourished.



What is the Role of NDS?



Nutritional Development Services (NDS), is a sponsor of the Summer Meals Program. During the summer months, NDS collaborates with community partners to become meal sites. NDS provides meals directly to sites and the sites distribute the meals to the children in their community. For the summer of 2025, meals will be available June 16th-August 22nd.



What is a summer meal site?


A site is the physical location, which is approved by the State agency, where program meals are served during a designated time determined by the site.

A site can be anywhere where children gather! Examples may include camps, churches, designated outdoor areas, apartment and townhouse community rooms, theaters, WIC centers, libraries, etc.

As the site, you can help determine the logistics of your program. This includes your start and end date, what time(s) you will serve meals, and what days of the week you will operate. We just ask that you complete daily paperwork, tracking the number of meals you serve.




What are the Eligibility Requirements?

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- Be located in an eligible area and/or serve eligible children. This is determined using Census or school data
 - Must attend an annual training
 - Serve at least 15 children per day for at least one week
 - Complete required documentation every day of your summer program.



What are the next steps?



To learn more or register, please contact NDS' main office at 215-895-3470, option 1. If registering, you will be asked a series of questions about your program such as the location, start/end dates, serve times, meals counts, etc.