



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor

Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

**CACFP 03-05
SFSP 03-03**

March 21, 2003

**TO: Institutions Participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program
Sponsors of the Summer Food Service Program**

**FROM: Arnette Cowan, MS, RD, LDN
Head, Special Nutrition Programs**

**Ruth McDowell, SFSP Coordinator
Special Nutrition Programs**

Subject: Military Families and Eligibility in the Child Nutrition Programs

This memorandum is to clarify the child nutrition policy for households affected by deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and possible future military contingencies. This memorandum reiterates USDA's guidance on the deployment of family members for military service to accommodate free and reduced price meal eligibility determinations, tier I day care home determinations, and meal benefits for children temporarily residing with their providers.

For the purpose of determining household size, deployed service members should be considered as family members living apart on a temporary basis. A school or an institution would instruct families to include the names and income of deployed service members on their meal benefit forms. The determining official would count the service member as household in establishing a child's eligibility for free and reduced price meals, or a daycare provider's eligibility for tier I reimbursement rates. (CACFP Policy 226.23-18, SFSP Policy 225.06-25, and NSLP 245.03-11)

Deployment of a parent or guardian may also affect the eligibility of a child, who temporarily resides with a day care home provider, to receive meals in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Although the child may live with the provider while the service member is deployed, the child would not be considered a "provider's own" child. In this special situation, the child would continue to participate in the meal service as a nonresidential participant. To claim reimbursement for program meals, the daycare home provider must have power of attorney, custody, or an agreement established by the military to provide residential care to the child. (CACFP Policy 226.02-04)

If you have any questions, please call your regional consultant.

cc: SNP Staff





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