



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

September 22, 2006

CACFP 06-10
SFSP 06-07

MEMORANDUM

To: Institution 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 Unit

Re: U.S. Armed Forces Family Supplemental Subsistence Allowance-Excluded from Income
Consideration

Since May 2001, the Department of Defense has paid certain members of the Armed Forces and their families a Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA). The FSSA is designed to bring a household’s income up to 130% of the Federal poverty line and decrease the reliance on Food Stamps for affected members and their families. The amount of the FSSA, based on household size and income, may not exceed \$500 per month. Previously, for purposes of Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) eligibility determination, the FSSA payments were counted as earned income for households. However in Public Law 108-375, Congress has specified that in the event that counting the FSSA as income would put a family over the CNP income limits, the family must be considered eligible to receive CNP benefits. Public Law 108-375 amends a standing provision that is not tied specifically to the appropriations process; therefore this amendment is effective until the provision expires at the end of Fiscal Year 2006.

Therefore, in accordance with Public Law 108-375, any FSSA that a household receives must not be treated as income in determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals under any of the CNPs, including the Child and Adult Care Food Program and the Summer Food Service Program. This memorandum supersedes the policy for FSSA in the eligibility guidance for applications taken in Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006.

Please contact your regional consultants if you have any questions concerning this guidance.

cc: SNP Staff
Auditors
MaryAnne Burghardt
Anteasha Farrell

