

## Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Information for the 2021-2022 School Year

Unlike the previous school year waivers, **the new set of waivers for SY 2021-2022 did not extend the option for school food authorities (SFAs) or non-school sponsors to operate the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) in SY 2021-2022.** Schools will instead choose to operate the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Seamless Summer Option (SSO) or the regular NSLP and School Breakfast Program (SBP).

This means that schools will **return to the school meal pattern**, which emphasizes healthy eating with a focus on fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and sensible calorie levels. However, FNS has issued a **targeted meal pattern waiver** to give schools the flexibility they need to provide a safe meal service in SY 2021-2022. In recognition of the additional costs of serving safe meals during the COVID-19 pandemic, FNS is also allowing **schools operating SSO to receive the higher SFSP reimbursement rate** in SY 2021-2022.

**Note: The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is not an option for the academic 2021-2022 SY**

Topic	Seamless Summer Option (SSO)	National School Lunch Program (NSLP)/School Breakfast Program (SBP)
<b>Eligible Sponsors</b>	SFAs with an approved NSLP School Nutrition Contract for the 2021-2022 SY.	SFAs with an approved NSLP School Nutrition Contract for the 2021-2022 SY
<b>Eligible Participants</b>	An SFA can choose to operate an open site, to serve children between the ages of 0-18 in the community who are not enrolled in school. Closed enrolled sites may be only available to students that are "enrolled" in that site.	Students enrolled in a school of high school grade and under determined by the State Agency; including persons enrolled in a school program for the mentally or physically disabled; and persons under 21 enrolled in an RCCI.
<b>Meal Service Locations</b>	Schools, RCCIs, non-school sites (as needed)	Schools, RCCIs
<b>Meal Cost for Children</b>	Meals are free for all children	Meal cost and reimbursement is based on student's free, reduced-price, and paid eligibility
<b>Types of Meals</b>	Breakfast Lunch AM/PM Snack Supper	Breakfast Lunch Afterschool Snack
<b>Maximum Number of Meals</b>	<b>Maximum two meals per day.</b>  In addition, schools may participate in (pending) NSLP Afterschool Snack Program <i>or</i> CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals.	There is no maximum; all meal programs may be served
<b>Meal Pattern</b>	Must meet <a href="#">NSLP</a> and <a href="#">SBP</a> meal pattern standards. <a href="#">Meal patterns</a> and <a href="#">OVS flexibilities</a> may be granted in specific circumstances	Must meet <a href="#">NSLP</a> and <a href="#">SBP</a> meal pattern standards. <a href="#">Meal patterns</a> and <a href="#">OVS flexibilities</a> may be granted in specific circumstances
<b>Meal Time Service Requirements</b>	<a href="#">Meal Service Times Waiver</a> No Meal Service Time Requirements	<a href="#">Meal Service Times Waiver</a> No Meal Service Time Requirements
<b>Times of Operation</b>	When school is in session as established by the school district, including summer school.	When school is in session as established by the school district, including summer school.
<b>USDA Foods</b>	37 cents per meal	37 cents per meal.

Topic	SSO	NSLP								
<b>Reimbursement Rates</b>	<table border="1" data-bbox="349 170 834 352"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="349 170 537 205">Type of Meal</th> <th data-bbox="537 170 834 205"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="349 205 537 241">Breakfast</td> <td data-bbox="537 205 834 241">\$2.4625</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="349 241 537 317">Lunch or Supper</td> <td data-bbox="537 241 834 317">\$4.3175</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="349 317 537 352">Snack</td> <td data-bbox="537 317 834 352">\$1.0200</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="337 359 894 493"><i>Through December 31, 2021. Rates will change based on the Consumer Price Index January 1, 2022. SFSP rates only allowed in <a href="#">SSO for SY 2021-2022</a>.</i></p>	Type of Meal		Breakfast	\$2.4625	Lunch or Supper	\$4.3175	Snack	\$1.0200	<p data-bbox="954 170 1198 199">School Year 2021-22</p> <p data-bbox="954 243 1463 273"><a href="#">Reimbursement Rates 2020-2021 (mt.gov)</a></p> <p data-bbox="954 317 1417 346">Updated in July 2021 for SY 2021-2022</p>
Type of Meal										
Breakfast	\$2.4625									
Lunch or Supper	\$4.3175									
Snack	\$1.0200									
<b>Monitoring Required of SFA/Sponsors</b>	<p data-bbox="337 506 821 535"><a href="#">Onsite Monitoring Requirements Waiver</a></p> <p data-bbox="337 575 915 709">To ensure continued program integrity, SFAs are encouraged to complete a desk audit of counting, claiming, and meal pattern compliance for each site.</p>	<p data-bbox="943 506 1430 535"><a href="#">Onsite Monitoring Requirements Waiver</a></p>								
<b>State Agency Monitoring</b>	<p data-bbox="337 722 894 785">Limited Administrative Review for SFAs due for an NSLP Review</p> <p data-bbox="337 827 821 856"><a href="#">Onsite Monitoring Requirements Waiver</a></p>	<p data-bbox="943 722 1224 751">Administrative Reviews</p> <p data-bbox="943 791 1430 821"><a href="#">Onsite Monitoring Requirements Waiver</a></p>								
<b>Public Notification</b>	<p data-bbox="337 905 899 1003">For SY 2021-2022, schools participating in SSO should provide the public release that all meals will be offered free through SSO.</p> <p data-bbox="337 1045 907 1108">OPI will provide a template for schools to use to meet this requirement.</p>	<p data-bbox="943 905 1507 1039">SFAs must provide the public release to media and other organizations to inform the public of participation in the USDA Child Nutrition Programs.</p> <p data-bbox="943 1079 1487 1142">OPI will provide a template for schools to use to meet this requirement.</p>								

Kelly

DO WE STILL REQUIRE F/R AP'S VIS AVIS TITLES?