

2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 754, East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334 (404) 656-5957

**Brian P. Kemp** *Governor* 

Amy M. Jacobs
Commissioner

## **MEMORANDUM**

**Subject:** Promoting Access to Voting through the Child Nutrition Programs

**Date:** March 23, 2022

**Legal Authority:** USDA Policy Memorandum CACFP 06-2022 and SFSP 02-2022; and Healthy,

Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010- Public Law 111-296

**Applies To:** All Institutions Participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

and Sponsors participating the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

**Purpose:** The purpose of this memorandum is to encourage State agencies administering the

Child Nutrition Programs to provide local program operators with promotional materials that can be disseminated to Program participants to expand access to, and

provide education about, voter registration and election information.

On March 7, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden passed Executive Order (EO) 14019 directing Federal agencies to consider ways to expand citizens' opportunities to register to vote and to obtain information about, and participate in, the electoral process. Through the Child Nutrition Programs, operators have the ability to reach Americans to provide them with information about voting.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) encourages all State agencies administering the Child Nutrition Programs to provide local program operators with promotional materials, including voter registration and non-partisan, non-campaign election information, to disseminate among voting-age program participants and their families. Ideas include, but are not limited to, encouraging:

 School food authorities administering the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) in high schools, and adult day care centers and emergency shelters participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to promote voter registration and election information among voting-age participants and use congregate feeding areas, such as cafeterias, or food distribution sites, as sites for the dissemination of information;

- Schools to provide parents and guardians with voter registration and election information when distributing NSLP free and reduced price meal applications and/or other communications to households:
- Operators of the CACFP and the Summer Food Service Program to post flyers with voter registration and election information to reach parents and/or guardians of young participants; and
- All program operators to post information on their website and social media channels, and link to relevant resources, including vote.gov.

Attached to this letter is a sample flyer (also available at <u>USAGov's Quick Guide to Voting in 2020 | USAGov</u>) as an example of information that may be used by program operators. State agencies are encouraged to develop additional materials and translations as needed, in order to address State-specific voter registration requirements and election information, and best reach the intended population. State and local election websites can be located at <u>Find My State or Local Election Office Website | USAGov</u>.

The Child Nutrition Programs play an essential role in the health and development of our nation's children and can also play a role in enabling all Americans to participate in our democracy.

For questions concerning this memorandum, please contact the Policy Administrator at 404-651-8193.

## **Sample Flyer**





Learn how to check or change your voter registration. Visit Vote.gov to get state-specific information.

**Research the candidates.** Study the issues and find what to look for in a debate.





**Learn how you can vote on or before Election Day**, like in-person at your polling place.

Each state has its own rules for elections.

Check your state election office for more details.



For more information, visit USA.gov/Voting.

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