



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

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

To: All Sponsors participating in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

From: Sonja R. Adams, Director of Provider Services – Nutrition (**Original Signed**)

Date: February 1, 2011 (v.2 January 25, 2019)

Subject: Legal Status Verification for Public Benefits

This memorandum was revised to reflect the current electronic application system – GA ATLAS as well as to provide an updated address, and updated link for the required affidavit entitled *Affidavit Verifying Applicant Status for Public Benefits*.

Federal and state law requires applicants for public benefits to verify their legal status. As a SFSP participant, a signed and sworn affidavit verifying the applicant's lawful presence in the United States is required.¹

In order to participate in the SFSP, each “applicant” must complete and submit the affidavit entitled, *Affidavit Verifying Applicant Status for Public Benefits*. This document can be found on GA ATLAS or on DECAL’s website, located at <http://dec.al.ga.gov/documents/attachments/SAVEAffidavitSFSP.pdf>. For the purposes of this affidavit, “applicant” shall mean the organization’s Authorized Representative. An Authorized Representative is a person who is legally responsible to enter into an agreement with DECAL.

The affidavit must be completed in full, notarized, and returned with all hard copy SFSP application documents to:

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
ATTENTION: NUTRITION SERVICES/APPLICATION SPECIALIST
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. NE
Suite 754, East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334

¹ O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1(e)

Further, because this affidavit is mandated by federal and state law, DECAL cannot issue a waiver in requiring the completion of the affidavit. Program eligibility will be verified through the Systematic Alien Verification of Entitlement (SAVE) program operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security.

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