

**Bright from the Start:
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning**

Nutrition Services

POLICY	No.: SFSP/03-7	Effective Date: 4/1/2003
		Revised: 10/22/2004
		Revision Effective: 10/1/2004

SUBJECT: Use of home-canned and home-frozen foods as they relate to crediting towards the meal pattern

LEGAL AUTHORITY: 7 C.F.R. § 225.16(a); O.C.G.A. § 20-1A-5

Cross Reference/See Also:

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to discuss the use of home-canned and home-frozen foods by institutions participating in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) as they relate to crediting towards the meal pattern.

II. APPLIES TO

This policy applies to all sponsors participating in the SFSP.

III. DEFINITION(S)

"Sponsor" means a public or private nonprofit school food authority, a public or private nonprofit residential summer camp, a unit of local, municipal, county or State government, a public or private nonprofit college or university currently participating in the National Youth Sports Program (NYSP), or a private nonprofit organization which develops a special summer or other school vacation program providing food service similar to that made available to children during the school year under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and which is approved to participate in the Program.

"DECAL"- means Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning.

IV. POLICY

The use of home-canned foods in the SFSP for reimbursement is prohibited. The use of home-canned foods will increase the likelihood of illness related to clostridium botulinum which can be present in food without the evidence of spoilage and can be fatal. Meals served and claimed for reimbursement in the SFSP should not include home-canned foods. The use of home-frozen food

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is also prohibited. Meals containing home-frozen foods are not creditable and should not be claimed for reimbursement. All sponsors participating in the SFSP should ensure that all components of each meal service are stored, prepared, and served in a manner that is in compliance with state and local regulations, standards, and health and safety guidelines. Sponsors participating in the SFSP may claim reimbursement for foods prepared fresh, commercially frozen, and commercially canned.

V. PROCEDURE(S)

Sponsors participating in the SFSP should review state and local regulations, Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) policies, and USDA publications regarding the safe storage, preparation, and serving of food to children and adults to ensure that they are always in compliance with program guidelines.

DECAL will deny reimbursement for any meal containing home-canned or home-frozen food(s). DECAL will also reclaim reimbursement for any meals found to contain home-canned food(s) or home-frozen food(s) during a review or audit of a SFSP participant's records.

VI. COMMENT(S)

Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Policy Coordinator at (404) 651-7181.