

Child and Adult Care Food Program Nutrition News

July 1, 2020

Registration and Enrollment for CACFP Renewal Opens Early for FY 2021

Each year, participating CACFP Sponsors and Institutions are required to meet annual renewal requirements by October 31.

As a convenience, the Nutrition Division will open registration for the required annual training on July 15 and open enrollment for the application renewal will be available beginning August 15. This adjustment will provide more time to complete the renewal updates, and ensure that the FY 2021 applications are accurate and approved prior to the beginning of the new program year.

Step 1: Complete Annual Training Requirements

Registration for the CACFP Annual training requirements opens on July 15. These requirements include:

- Reviewing the CACFP 2021 Annual Training presentation in GA ATLAS
- Completing the CACFP 2021 Annual Training assessment questions in GA ATLAS.

Once the annual training assessment has been completed and submitted, you will receive access to the FY 2020-2021 CACFP application.

Step 2: Enroll in FY 2021 CACFP

Upon completion of the Annual Training and Assessment, the CACFP application for the associated program year will change the institution or sponsor's status to "Not Enrolled" and the "Enroll" button will be available.

- Review the FY 2020 application packet and make updates by **July 31, 2020**.
- Enroll into FY 2021 on or after **August 15, 2020**.

Step 3: Submit your FY 2021 Application on or before October 31

Original or Annual Budgets and Budget Amendments must also be submitted on or before October 31, 2020.

FY21 CACFP Deadlines

DATE	TASK
July 15	Registration Opens for required 2021 CACFP Annual Training
July 31	Deadline to submit updates to the FY 2019-2020 application packet
August 1-14	ATLAS Closed
August 15	Enrollment Opens for FY 2021: Upon completion of Annual Training and Assessment, Sponsors & Institutions may enroll in FY 2021
September 15	Deadline to submit any additional changes to the FY 2020 application
October 31	Deadline to submit 2021 CACFP Application Deadline to submit original or annual budgets and budget amendments.

ATLAS Closed for Maintenance August 1-14

In preparation for FY 2021 CACFP renewal, GA ATLAS will be unavailable Saturday, August 1 through Saturday, August 14, 2020.

This means participating CACFP organizations will not have access to modify or make changes to the application packet. This will not impact access to the Training Management and Claims modules. Therefore, you will be able to register for training and submit monthly claims for reimbursement as normal.

During this time, staff will review all outstanding FY 2020 CACFP Renewal application updates and new updates/changes that will be effective August 2020. Ensuring all FY 2020 CACFP application packets are approved by August 15, 2020, will help ensure a better renewal application transfer for FY 2021.

Please review your FY 2020 application packet and make updates prior to August 1, 2020. It is imperative that any FY 2020 changes, including updates to the application, management plan and budget, and the addition/termination of centers/homes are completed in GA ATLAS for the month of August 2020 prior to August 1, 2020.

NOTE: If additional changes **must** be made to the FY 2020 application after August 15, 2020, they must be received prior to September 15, 2020, to allow time for review and processing. Finally, changes not completed by September 30, 2020 will receive an effective date to operate based on submission of information in FY 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact your assigned Application Specialist.

Application Specialist (AP)	Institution Assignment	Email	Phone Number
Paula Lawrence	0 (zero)—G	Paula.Lawrence@decals.ga.gov	(404) 463-2111
Shericka Blount	H—P	Shericka.Blount@decals.ga.gov	(404) 656-6411
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USDA Awards 2020 Farm to Grant to DECAL Nutrition Services

DECAL's Nutrition Services was recently notified that the division was awarded the 2020

Farm to School Grant. Administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), this award will help bring fresh, local foods into child nutrition meal programs and foster economic opportunity for America's farmers over the next school year.

"USDA's Farm to School Program is a win-win," said Brandon Lipps, USDA's Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services. "The grants announced today will help build bright futures for our children by connecting them to where their food comes from, while also nourishing the local economy and supporting American agriculture."

DECAL's Nutrition Division will continue to improve access to local foods for our state's youngest residents by expanding our Farm to Early Care and Education Program which supports local procurement and agriculture-based nutrition education at child care sites. Stay tuned for more details to come!

COVID-19 Resources for Sponsors & Institutions

FAQs: Serving Meals during Unanticipated School Closures

Answers to frequently asked questions regarding serving meals during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CACFP: Providing Multiple Meals at a Time During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

NATIONWIDE WAIVERS

In light of the exceptional circumstances of the current public health emergency, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has extended the following Nationwide Waivers to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to the novel coronavirus.

For a complete list of waivers related to COVID-19, please [click here](#).

- **Meal Pattern Flexibilities:** The requirement to serve meals that meet the meal pattern requirements is waived during the public health emergency. ****Waiver extended until June 30, 2021****
- **Meal Times Waiver:** The requirement that meals must follow meal service time requirements is waived during the public health emergency. ****Waiver extended until June 30, 2021****
- **Non-Congregate Feeding:** The requirement that meals be served in a congregate setting and must be consumed by participants on site is waived during the public health emergency. ****Waiver extended to June 30, 2021****
- **Parent Pick-up:** Under this waiver, Program operators in a State with an approved waiver allowing non-congregate meal distribution during COVID-19 related operations may distribute meals to a parent or guardian to take home to their eligible children. ****Waiver extended to June 30, 2021****
- **Monitoring Waiver for Sponsoring Organizations: For sponsors only** – CACFP monitoring requirements are waived as follows: (1) sponsors may conduct two reviews of their CACFP facilities; (2) only one CACFP facility review is required to be unannounced; (3) FNS waives that at least one unannounced review must include observation of a meal service; (4) FNS waives the requirement that not more than six months may elapse between reviews; and (5) allows sponsors to review new CACFP facilities as a desk audit. ****Waiver extended to August 31, 2020****

Note: June 30, 2020, was the last day for CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Care Centers to operate under the unanticipated school closure waiver. Once the State or school district transitions to traditional SFSP, At-Risk operations must cease.

Therefore, after the end of the planned school year or June 30, At-Risk programs can no longer claim meals through the At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program but may choose to operate as SFSP sponsors or sites if eligible and approved by the State agency. At-Risk Afterschool Care Centers may begin operations at the start of the affirmed FY 2021 school

Guidance on Training Requirements during COVID-19

CACFP regulations require sponsors and institutions to provide sufficient training and technical assistance to their staff. The policy below provides guidance on how to manage the required training during the pandemic.

Pursuant to **CACFP Policy #20 – Training Requirements**, the delegated Principal/Program Contact (PC) is responsible for training all staff within the institution that performs CACFP administrative and/or operating duties. Failure of the delegated Principal/Program Contact (PC) to train other staff responsible for CACFP responsibilities will result in the institution being declared seriously deficient.

If onsite training is **not** conducted due to social distancing, The PC may conduct online training via webinar or provide staff with training materials via other methods, such as email. If internet access is unavailable, staff may pick up hardcopies of training materials. Training materials may include, but are not limited to:

- PowerPoint presentation
- CACFP Handbooks (*Independent Child Care Center CACFP, At-Risk Afterschool Meals Handbook*)
- CACFP policies/memos
- Assessment (optional)

Verifying Training Completion

The delegated Principal/Program Contact (PC) must collect and maintain documentation to verify that all staff have been trained. If written signatures are **not** obtained on sign-in sheets, the PC may request an email confirmation from staff to certify that training materials were received and reviewed. Or the PC may create and disseminate an assessment to staff to complete and return to verify training completion. In summary, the following documentation must be maintained.

- Training Agenda
- A list of staff members that received training materials
- Date training materials were disseminated
- How training materials were disseminated
- webinar; web-based; email; hardcopy
- Printed email from staff to certify that training has been received and reviewed **or** a completed, printed assessment from staff

Questions

Please feel free to contact your assigned Technical Assistance Coordinator or the Nutrition TA mailbox at NutritionTA@decals.ga.gov with any further questions/concerns.

Name	Title	Phone	Email	Region
LaKisha Robinson	TA Coordinator	(478) 314-2806	LaKisha.Robinson@decals.ga.gov	Southeast
Deidrea Thompson	TA Coordinator	(866) 370-3203	Deidrea.Thompson@decals.ga.gov	East
Victoria Thomas	TA Coordinator	(470) 532-0873	Victoria.Thomas@decals.ga.gov	Southwest
Nkem Ijeh	TA Coordinator	(404) 973-4099	Nkem.Ijeh@decals.ga.gov	North/NW
Tanya Coleman	TA Coordinator	(470) 373-7826	Tanya.Coleman@decals.ga.gov	Metro West

What's your preference for Updated Meal

Pattern training during COVID-19?

We Want to Hear from You!

Survey link coming to your inbox next week!

Please be on the lookout for a short survey arriving in your inbox next week. The purpose of the survey is to determine how DECAL can best provide continued Updated Meal Patterns training services to CACFP organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Your responses are appreciated and will help ensure Nutrition Services provides optimal training and resources.

Procurement Update

Did you miss the Virtual Vendor Summit?

If you were unable to attend the Virtual Vendor Summit, we have made the replay available. Please visit the [Nutrition Services Procurement Page](#) to view.

The Virtual Vendor Summit was an opportunity for our program providers to hear from vendors and suppliers about how they can assist with mitigating challenges faced when purchasing meals.

Formal Procurement Bid Templates

As you prepare for the CACFP FY21, please be sure to utilize the updated State Agency approved Competitive Bid templates for both Food Service Management Companies and Food Item Vendors. Links to both documents have been posted below.

- [Invitation for Bid \(FSMC\) - CACFP](#)
- [CACFP - Request for Proposal \(FSMC\)](#)
- [Invitation for Bid \(Food Vendor Company\) - CACFP](#)
- [CACFP - Request for Proposal \(Food Vendor\)](#)

Procurement Tips and Hints:

Emergency Feeding has caused us to re-evaluate our program operations and how we purchase meals and food items. Many restaurant establishments have proven to be an accepted alternative to traditional Food Service Management Companies. Local Restaurants have the kitchen space as well as required health and safety sanitation certifications needed to operate a food service business in Georgia.

When contacting a local restaurant please be sure to use the helpful tips below when determining if they are a good vendor:

1. Ask which meal types they can provide.
 2. What type of containers are used when serving meals?
 3. Do they utilize locally grown and harvested Georgia products?
 4. Make sure they are aware of the number of meals needed.
 5. Ask if the meals can be delivered.
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Local Sourcing Spotlight: *Aww Shucks! It's Corn Season*

Summer in Georgia means access to lots of locally grown fresh corn. Rich in Vitamin B12, Folic Acid and Iron, maize, or as it is more commonly known, corn is a healthy addition to your lunch or supper meals. Fresh



corn can even be dried and heated to serve as popcorn for snack time!

Where to buy?

If you're interested in purchasing fresh corn, try Beck Farms Produce in Eastman, GA. With Triple Sweet Corn available, orders can be placed over the phone for pick-up.

Nutrition Ed Nook

What did the corn say when they received a compliment?

Answer: Aw shucks!

We hope the joke wasn't too "corny" for you! It's a great reminder that harvest season for local corn is upon us and it's crisp and ripe for your meal program. Support a local farmer or farmers market to kick off Georgia's most robust growing season with a taste of Georgia farms. Enjoy!

Nutritional Benefits

- High in fiber
- Contains B vitamins
- High in folate, magnesium, and potassium

Selecting & Storing

- Look for green, tight, husks
- Look for husks that are not dried out
- Feel for solid and round corn and firm kernels

Menu Inclusion

- Top sliced corn on a tortilla salad
- Serve corn on the cob with a grilled chicken sandwich
- Stir fry corn, bell peppers, onions and zucchini to make fajitas
- Combine a snack of Mexicali corn with salsa and whole-grain tortilla chips



Corn, Zucchini, and Tomato Pie

Colorful and hearty, this savory pie is a great way to showcase summer vegetables. Serve it as a side dish or a meatless entrée.

Makes: 6 servings **Prep time:** 5 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes

Sweet Corn Recipes

[Click here](#) for the Corn, Zucchini and Tomato Pie recipe. For more sweet corn recipes such as corn pudding, Mexicali corn, and corn and edamame blend, visit the [Child Nutrition Recipe](#)

Box.

Farm to Early Care & Education Activities

Enhance creativity with corn painting: Roll corn on the cob into paint in shallow trays and then roll onto paper. Display artwork around the classroom for children to admire.

Never Leave a Child Alone in a Vehicle



For the seventh consecutive year, DECAL is calling for families and caregivers of children to increase awareness of the dangers of leaving children unattended in vehicles. This year's "Look Again" campaign aligns with National Heatstroke Prevention Day on July 1, 2020, to ensure that families, child care providers, and the public understand how to prevent pediatric vehicular heatstroke.

"As more Georgians are getting back on the road, it is critically important to remember that our children are our most precious cargo," said Governor Brian P. Kemp. "That's why Marty and I stand with the Department of Early Care and Learning in urging everyone to 'Look Again' and protect the health and safety of Georgia's children. Please join us in following these simple steps to make a difference and save lives."

DECAL Commissioner Amy M. Jacobs said more than 337,000 children in Georgia are cared for daily by approximately 4,500 child care providers, most of whom regularly transport children. This year, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Governor Kemp issued an Executive Order limiting when child care programs are allowed to transport children. However, the need for child care providers to be vigilant still exists. In the United States, 52 children died from pediatric vehicular heatstroke in 2019. So far, six have died in 2020.

"When we receive reports of children left in vehicles by providers, we investigate each incident," Jacobs explained. "During FY2019, 19 children were left in vehicles by child care providers statewide. In FY2020, nine children have been left. Thankfully all of these children survived, but one child left unattended in a vehicle is one child too many, and, despite our best efforts, these numbers show we cannot become complacent."

Message from Governor Brian Kemp Message from Commissioner Amy M. Jacobs

On the next ...

DECAL
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New Episodes Every Wednesday!

This Week's Guests



Rhonda Parker
Director of CCS
Field Operations



Andrew Grundstein
Professor
Department of Geography
University of Georgia

Joining us on this week's *DECAL Download* to talk about ways to prevent pediatric vehicular heatstroke is Child Care Services Director of Field Operations Rhonda Parker and Dr. **Andrew Grundstein**, a Professor of Geography at the University of Georgia.

Stay tuned for this week's water cooler question and the DECAL Download Quiz for your chance to win a nice prize!

<https://decaldownload.buzzsprout.com/>

This Week's Topic:
Look Again!



**Georgia Dept
of Early Care
and Learning**
BRIGHT FROM THE START

Nutrition Division Marketing & Outreach Team

Cindy Kicklighter

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Nondiscrimination Statement: English
Nondiscrimination Statement: Spanish

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