



June 17, 2024

Registration for FY 2025 CACFP Renewal Training Opens July 15; Enrollment Opens August 1

Participating CACFP Sponsors and Institutions are required to meet annual renewal requirements by September 30, 2024. The Nutrition Division will open registration for the required annual training on July 15, 2024, and open enrollment for the application renewal will be available beginning August 1, 2024.

Step 1: Complete Annual Training Requirements

Registration for the CACFP Annual Training requirements opens on July 15th.

These requirements include:

- Reviewing the CACFP 2025 Annual Training presentation in GA ATLAS
- Completing the CACFP 2025 Annual Training Test Assessment in GA ATLAS

Once the annual training assessment has been completed and submitted, you will receive access to the FY 2024-2025 CACFP application.

Step 2: Enroll in FY 2024

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.

- Enroll into FY 2025 on or after August 1, 2024.

Step 3: Submit your FY 2025 Application on or before September 30

Original or Annual Budgets and Budget Amendments must also be submitted on or before September 30, 2024.

Failure to complete the annual requirements by the specified deadline date will impact continued participation in the CACFP, which includes submission of monthly claims for reimbursement.

DATE	Task
July 15	Registration Opens for required 2024 CACFP Annual Training
August 1	Enrollment Opens for FY 2025 Upon completion of Annual Training and Assessment, Sponsors & Institutions may enroll in FY 2025
September 15	Deadline to submit any additional changes to the FY 2024 Application Any FY 2024 changes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updates to the application • management plan and budget • the addition/termination of centers/homes MUST be completed in GA ATLAS by September 15, 2024 to allow time for review and processing.
September 30	Deadline to complete 2025 CACFP Annual Training and Assessment Deadline to submit 2025 CACFP Application Deadline to submit original or annual budget and budget amendments.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your assigned Application Specialist:

Application Specialists	Institution Assignment	Email	Phone Number
Jerald Savage	o (zero)-G V-Z	Jerald.Savage@dec.al.ga.gov	(770) 405-7916
Shericka Blount	H-P, Q-U	Shericka.Blount@dec.al.ga.gov	(404)656-6411

Is Your Institution Required To Submit An Annual Budget?

Original or Annual Budgets and Budget Amendments must be submitted on or before September 30, 2024. At a minimum, annual budgets are required when:

- An Independent Center with an approved budget in FY 2024 intends to use FY 2025 reimbursement funds for new operating and/or administrative costs that require prior approval, specific prior written approval, or formal procurement.
- An Independent Center with an approved budget in FY 2024 with approved costs and the same costs in FY 2025, but new supporting documentation must be submitted for review and approval (e.g., lease agreements for center space, equipment rental, etc.).
- All Administrative, Center and DCH sponsoring organizations must submit an annual budget.

Please follow links below for budget related tools and references:

[Budget Guidance Manual](#)

[Budget Checklist](#)

[Budget Allocation Worksheet](#)

For budget questions or concerns, please contact Gwendolyn Howard, Budget Compliance Supervisor, at 404.651.7191 or email Nutritionbudget@dec.al.ga.gov.

The Onions are Ready at Little Folks Farm & Childcare



The onions have been harvested at Little Folks Farm and Childcare in Lyons, and they are ready to sell. Proceeds from the sale will fund other garden projects on the farm.

The center offers innovative activities like pulling onions as part of its Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) initiative.

The center is preparing to plant blackberries, blueberries, bananas, grapes and Satsuma trees on newly cleared land.

Updated Procurement Forms:

Civil Rights Assurance Statement

All CACFP DECAL Procurement agreements and contracts are updated to align with federal requirements. CACFP Operators must incorporate the following Civil Rights Assurance language into all CACFP contracts and agreements with retailers, vendors, and food service management companies:

By signing the statement below, the Program applicant hereby agrees that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) and all requirements imposed by the regulations of the Department of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 15), DOJ (28) CFR Parts 42 and 50) and FNS directives or regulations issued pursuant to that Act and the regulations, to the effect that, no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subject to discrimination under any program or activity for which the Program applicant received Federal financial assistance from USDA; and hereby gives assurance that it will immediately take any measures necessary to fulfill this agreement.

This assurance is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all Federal financial assistance, grants, and loans of Federal funds, reimbursable expenditures, grant, or donation of Federal property and interest in property, the detail of Federal personnel, the sale and lease of, and the permission to use Federal property or interest in such property or the furnishing of services without consideration or at a nominal consideration, or at a consideration that is reduced for the purpose of assisting the recipient, or in recognition of the public interest to be served by such sale, lease, or furnishing of services to the recipient, or any improvements made with Federal financial assistance extended to the Program applicant by USDA. This includes any Federal agreement, arrangement, or other contract that has as one of its purposes the provision of cash assistance for the purchase of food, and cash assistance for purchase or rental of food service equipment or any other financial assistance extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this assurance.

By accepting this assurance, the Program applicant agrees to compile data, maintain records, and submit reports as required, to permit effective enforcement of nondiscrimination laws and permit authorized USDA personnel during hours of program operation to review such records, books, and accounts as needed to ascertain compliance with the nondiscrimination laws. If there are any violations of this assurance, the Department of Agriculture, FNS, shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this assurance. This assurance is binding on the Program applicant, its successors, transferees, and assignees as long as it receives assistance or retains possession of any assistance from USDA.

The person or persons whose signatures appear below are authorized to sign this assurance on the behalf of the Program applicant. By signing below, both the CACFP Institution and the

Food Service Management Company (FSMC) execute Acknowledgement and Compliance with the above Civil Rights Assurance.

To access the updated procurement forms, visit the Nutrition page at www.decal.ga.gov
For more information, please contact Tempest Harris Chance at tempest.harris@decal.ga.gov.

Stay Informed: New CACFP Memo on State Agency Monitoring

On May 28, 2024, USDA's Food Nutrition Services (FNS) issued the policy memorandum *Implementation Guidance: State Agency Financial Review Requirements*

This memorandum provides guidance to State agencies on how to complete the new annual verification of bank account activity for all CACFP sponsoring organizations (sponsors of affiliated and unaffiliated sites) which was established through the August 2023 Child Nutrition Program Integrity Final Rule.

New State agency review requirements also include an annual assessment of actual expenditures and meal reimbursement funds retained from centers for administrative costs for CACFP sponsoring organizations of unaffiliated centers. This new memorandum can be found [here](#).

At-Risk Afterschool Waivers Available during Unanticipated School Closures

On August 30, 2023, DECAL was approved by USDA to grant CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meal Component facilities waivers for the following:

- Non-Congregate Meal Service
- Parent and Guardian Meal Pick-up
- Meal Service Times
- At-Risk Enrichment Activities

These waivers can only be utilized during unanticipated school closures resulting from natural disasters, unscheduled major building repairs, court orders relating to school safety or other issues, labor-management disputes or when approved by DECAL for similar unanticipated causes.

You may access the waiver request approval [here](#). To read more about At-Risk Afterschool Waivers Available during Unanticipated School Closures, click [here](#).

The waivers are effective through June 30, 2024.

For questions, please contact [Robyn Parham](#) or [Tammie Baldwin](#).

Get Informed: Upcoming Training Dates

July 9, 2024

**Tuesday Tip! Serving Milk in the CACFP
1:30-2:00 p.m.**

Are you offering the minimum milk requirements per age group? Join this webinar to learn what kinds of milk to serve in CACFP and the requirement serving sizes. **Participants can**

earn one half [0.5] state-approved hours for attending this training in its entirety.

July 15, 2024

Memo Monday: Allocation and Allowability of Costs

10:00 a.m. - Noon

Do you have questions about the allocation and allowability of costs that are associated with CACFP? Join the webinar to take a deep dive into the following memos:

- [Assessing Costs in the CACFP- March 26, 2015](#)
- [Reporting and Allocating Program Costs Associated with CACFP Sponsoring Organizations Serving as Food Vendors and/or Food Service Management Companies to other CACFP Institutions or Non-CACFP Entities- January 23, 2024](#)
- [Charging Net Allowable Administrative Costs to the CACFP- October 4, 2020](#)

July 31, 2024

CACFP Procurement Readiness

10:00 a.m.- Noon

Are you practicing proper procurement requirements in your program? Join this webinar to learn:

- how to develop formal solicitations, and
- how to incorporate local sourcing practices into meal service, and
- relevant procurement practices when procuring food and non-food items.

Please [click here](#) to register for all DECAL webinars listed above.

Registration is a two-step process:

Step 1: After registering in GA ATLAS, you will receive a Training Confirmation email immediately from Georgia DECAL Help Desk helpdesk@cnpus.com with a registration link to attend the webinar. If you don't receive an email, please check your spam/junk folder.

Step 2: You must register for the link provided in the training confirmation email. If you should have an issue with registering, please contact Leslie Truman prior to the day of training.

Please note: Only the Program Contact (PC) can self register within GA ATLAS. If an additional person will be attending, please contact Leslie Truman at 404.657.1779.

Nutrition Ed Nook *The Versatile Egg Plant*

Eggplant is the June Harvest of the Month ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)) spotlight! Eggplant is a good source of fiber, which helps with digestion and may lower your risk for heart disease. It also contains vitamins C & K, which keep our immune system strong and help our bodies heal quickly; and potassium, which helps build muscle and keeps your heart healthy.



In Georgia, eggplants are in season June through October. The oblong purple eggplant found in most stores is often called a globe eggplant. Other varieties to grow or find at farmers markets can be oblong, long, thin, or round. Colors vary from white and green to pink, purple or black. Some have stripes of color.

Enjoy all types grilled, roasted, sautéed, or stir-fried. Eggplant goes well with many flavors. Add diced eggplant to soups and casseroles. It is known for how well it soaks up the flavor of the broth and sauces.

Fun Fact: Although considered a vegetable, the eggplant is actually a berry related to the tomato and potato. They all belong to the nightshade family.

Integration:

- **Baba Ghanoush**
- **Eggplant Pizza Slice**
- **Roasted Eggplant Tomato Ratatouille**
- **Roasted Eggplant with Curried Lentils**

Education:

- **Watch** the **Learn Fruits and Vegetables for Kids: The Eggplant** video. In this episode, get to know better the eggplant and have fun!
- **Taste test** eggplant to see how children like them and add it to your menu. Get creative with your recipe and involve children in the process. This will increase their willingness to try it.
- **Read** the book **Rainbow Stew by Cathryn Falwell**. Splish, splash, puddle dash! It's a rainy summer day, but the vegetables in Grandpa's garden are just waiting to be picked. Yellow peppers, purple cabbage, red tomatoes, green zucchini, orange carrots, and more. So many colors! So many delicious ingredients to slice, chop, peel, and dice for a great big pot of mouthwatering Rainbow Stew. Yum!"
- **Talk** with families about how children can help with meal preparation such as placing eggplant slices on a baking sheet to be cooked for a meal.
- **Bonus:** Send recipes home with families for them to incorporate eggplant into their meals!

Conversation:

- Have the children you serve eaten eggplant before?
- If so, how did they eat eggplant? If not, how would they like to try it?
- What other produce items are in the same family as eggplant?

Share your Harvest of the Month stories and menu integration of berries with Nutrition Education Specialist, Morgan Chapman, MPH, MCHc at morgan.chapman@decal.ga.gov.



June Harvest of the Month BONUS Item *Juicy, Red Tomatoes*

Tomatoes are the June Harvest of the Month bonus spotlight! Tomatoes are rich in nutrients that promote good health, including fiber, vitamins C & A, and potassium. There are many varieties of tomatoes, in a range of sizes and colors such as red, yellow, orange, green and purple.

Tomatoes can be stuffed, stewed, baked, and used in sauces, casseroles, and soups. Serve raw

tomatoes in salads, on sandwiches, or as a quick snack! Tomatoes are botanically a fruit, but we often place them in the vegetable food group.

Integration:

- **Pico de Gallo**
- **Tomato Melt**
- **Tomato Pasta Salad**
- **My Personal Pizza**
- **Baked Tomatoes with Cheese**

Share your Harvest of the Month stories and menu integration of eggplant and tomatoes with Nutrition Education Specialist, Morgan Chapman, MPH, MCHc at morgan.chapman@dec.al.ga.gov!

Celebrate Farm to Summer Week

June 24 – 28, 2024

DECAL's Nutrition Services is celebrating Farm to Summer Week June 24-28, 2024.

Farm to Summer engages kids and families through fun, hands-on experiential learning activities, improves the quality and appeal of summer meals, increases access to fresh fruits & vegetables, & nourishment while school is out.



The themes for the week are as follows:

- Monday – What is Farm to Summer?
- Tuesday – Gardening & Physical Activity
- Wednesday – Cooking & Taste Testing
- Thursday – Locally Grown in Meals & Snacks
- Friday – Literacy, Music & Movement

Share your photos with us throughout the week of your program participating in Farm to Summer activities using **#GAFarmtoSummer** or via email to

morgan.chapman@dec.al.ga.gov

Physical Activity Corner

Be Active All Summer Long

Hello Summer Activities! This is the perfect time to venture outdoors, bring out those running shoes, get ready to play and get in some physical activity.

It is recommended that children and adults get at least one hour of physical activity every day. Physical activity doesn't have to mean structured *exercise*, and instead can be a way to integrate movement in your day while being outdoors. Unstructured and structured play are both forms

of physical activity.

Be prepared with activity ideas when children say, “I’m bored.” Have less screen time, turn off TVs, and electronic devices and get everyone moving at set times during the day. It may be helpful to brainstorm with the children a list of activities in advance that your family enjoys.

Here are a few of summer activities for the children and families:

- Go on a group bike ride.
- Go on a trail walk, jog, or run with your family.
- Take time to go to local community pools early in the morning.
- Play games like *Freeze Tag* and *Red Light/Green Light*.
- Have a backyard garden party—invite the neighbors and friends to harvest a variety of fruits and vegetables.
- Draw different shapes with sidewalk chalk and practice moving over, around, frog hops, and counting numbers like hopscotch.
- Play catch with a water balloon.
- Walk like different animals—bear, crab, chicken, dog, snake, etc.
- Set up a variety of targets— old bottles, cans, buckets. Then work on throwing a ball at them from different distances.



Integration:

- **Getting Started: Georgia Farm to ECE Guide**
- **Georgia Master Gardeners: Gardens of Georgia**
- **Quality Care for Children's Farm to ECE Webpage**
- **UGA Extension's Community and School Gardens**
- **Georgia Department of Natural Resources**

Education:

- **Read** out loud, **“And Then Comes Summer” by Tome Brenner.**
- **Watch** the video on **Summer Safety Tips For Kids.**
- **Talk** with families about ways to get moving in the summer, whether at home, outside, in their local community, at your childcare site, or at their local recreational areas.
Bonus: Share #GetMoving, #BeActive, #SummerMoves, #InstaMoves, #KeepKidsMoving pictures and events that are happening in your communities.

Conversation:

- What are some fun physical activities for preschoolers?
- What are some of your favorite summer indoor/outdoor activities?
- How do you beat the heat in sports?
- Why is being hydrated in summer important?

Share your #GetMoving, #BeActive, #SummerMoves, #KeepKidsMoving, #InstaMoves stories and pictures with Physical Activity Specialist, Tina McLaren, MPH at tina.mclaren@decal.ga.gov

Virtual CACFP Summit Scholarships Available
Apply by July 24 at cacfp.org/summit

NATIONAL CACFP SPONSORS ASSOCIATION

Virtual CACFP SUMMIT

Aug. 14-15
Aug. 21-22
11:00 am - 3:00 pm ET

Looking for food program training?
Earn up to 16.5 hours of CEUs.

PERFECT FOR:

- ✓ Child Care Centers
- ✓ Home Providers
- ✓ Sponsoring Organizations
- ✓ Head Start
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Emergency Shelters
- ✓ Tribal Nations
- ✓ Food Banks
- ✓ Anti-Hunger Advocates

The Power of the Food Program
Motivating Children to Eat Healthy Food, Family Style Meal Service, Menu Planning, Head Start CACFP and more.

Federal Updates and Resources
USDA Program Updates, CACFP Newsroom: Advocacy, Stories, the Hill and more.

Personal & Professional Development
Finding the Leader in You, Communicating with Impact and more.

\$149

Lowest rate available through July 31.
Additional deadlines and registration information available online.

cacfp.org/summit

Georgia Early Care and Education
Harvest of the Month
2023-24 Calendar

AUGUST Watermelon	SEPTEMBER Apples	OCTOBER Pumpkin, Sweet Potato, Butternut Squash
NOVEMBER Squash, Sweet Potatoes	DECEMBER Lettuce	JANUARY Greens Calforn, Mustard, Turnip
FEBRUARY Cruciferous Vegetables Cabbage, Broccoli, Cauliflower	MARCH Root Vegetables Carrots, Beets, Radishes	APRIL Legumes Beans, Peas, Lentils
MAY Berries	JUNE Eggplant	JULY Peaches
BONUS Tomatoes		

Quality Care for Children
Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
Georgia Department of Education

Get monthly harvest-themed lesson plans, resources, parent newsletters and book lists from: www.qualitycareforchildren.org/farm-to-see
THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

Eat Healthy and Live Active

Georgia Early Care and Education Harvest of the Month 23-24 Calendar

Harvest of the Month (HOTM) is the Georgia Department of Education School Nutrition Program's farm to school initiative that highlights an item each month that can be sourced locally and served in Georgia's school meals.

The Georgia Early Care and Education Harvest of the Month is a collaborative campaign to promote a different local, seasonal fruit or vegetable in child care settings each month.

Visit the Georgia Department of Education's [HOTM webpage](#) and Quality Care for Children [webpage](#). Upon viewing, you can find tips and tricks for preparing produce items, curriculum connections, activity lists and book alignment for your early care classrooms.

CACFP Resources:

The following documents were covered in previous newsletters:

- [Updated Agreement for DCH Sponsors](#)
- [Thriving Child Care Business Academy](#)
- [Is it Time to Submit a Budget Revision?](#)
- [Claim Deadlines Updated](#)
- [Get the Lead Out of Water Where Children Learn and Play](#)
- [Updated Agreements for DCH and Administrative Sponsors](#)
- [Updated Suspension & Disbarment Certification Information](#)
- [How to File a CACFP Claim for Reimbursement](#)

You can find archived CACFP Newsletters [here](#).

Dates to Remember

DATEC	EVENTS
June	Harvest of the Month: Eggplant & Tomatoes
June 24-28	Farm to Summer Week
June 30	Waivers expire for At-Risk Afterschool during Unanticipated School Closures
July 9	Tuesday Tip! Serving Milk in the CACFP
July 15	Memo Monday: Allocation and Allowability of Costs
July 15	Registration opens for CACFP Training
July 24	Deadline to apply for scholarships to attend the Virtual CACFP Summit
July 31	CACFP Procurement Readiness Webinar
August 1	CACFP Enrollment Opens for FY2025
September 15	Deadline to submit additional changes to FY2024 Application
September 30	Deadline to complete FY 2025 CACFP Annual Training & Assessment Deadline to submit FY2025 CACFP Application Deadline to submit original or annual budget and budget amendments.

How was my Customer Service?

Provide feedback on your experience with the Nutrition Team



Click on the icon on the right to participate in the customer service survey. Responses are anonymous.

Join Us for a NEW DECAL Download!

Chat with Deputy Commissioner Pam Stevens

With over 4,300 licensed child care programs in Georgia, our Child

On the next ...

DECAL Download

New Episodes Every Wednesday!



Pam Stevens
Deputy Commissioner of Child Care Services

This Week's Topic:
**Chat with
Deputy Commissioner
Pam Stevens**



Georgia Dept
of Early Care
and Learning
BRIGHT FROM THE START



Care Services Division is dedicated to ensuring a safe and healthy learning environment through licensing, monitoring, and professional development.

We do it all to support the growth and development of Georgia's young children. In this episode of DECAL Download we hear from the Deputy Commissioner of Child Care Services, Pam Stevens.

Listen to the [episode here](#).



Nutrition Services Marketing & Outreach Team

Cindy Kicklighter

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

[Nondiscrimination Statement: English](#)

[Nondiscrimination Statement: Spanish](#)

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