



PROVIDERS FOOD PROGRAM JUNE 2009



MyPyramid for Preschoolers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a new, interactive *MyPyramid for Preschoolers* website for parents and caregivers to meet the needs of preschoolers 2 to 5 years of age. Share this great resource with your staff and parents. Key topic areas of MyPyramid for Preschoolers include:

- Create a customized eating plan
- Find out if your child is growing the way he or she should be
- Help children developing healthy eating habits
- Help children become more physically active
- Provide safe food at home and at your centers
- Prepare individual meals and snacks with the sample meal and snack patterns which reflect the "MyPyramid Plan"

Go to www.mypyramid.gov/preschoolers/index.html to find many activities to promote good nutrition and activity. When you click on *More Information*, you can download a coloring page, mini-posters, and two-sided bookmarks. Use these in a nutrition lesson on MyPyramid for Preschoolers this year!

Record keeping Requirements

USDA also issued a memo in March of 2009 clarifying record maintenance requirements for providers. Providers are required to retain claiming records under their control for 3 years after the close of each fiscal year, which means they may be required to keep up to 3 years and 11 months worth of records at one time. Providers may not rely on their Sponsors to retain these records for them. The memo can be found at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Care/Regs-Policy/policymemo/2007-2009/CACFP03-2009.pdf>

Providers who use any Minute Menu eclaiming method (WebKids, Minute Menu Kids, Minute Menu Kids Pro, or C-K Kids) will always have access to the menu and attendance information that they have saved online, as long as they have internet access and remain active with Providers Food Program. You must always, however, retain hard copies of signed child enrollment forms. Unsigned reprints of child enrollments will not satisfy the record maintenance requirements.



Infant Snacks

Adult cereal including Cheerios is not creditable for any infant meal or snack. Although Cheerios are a part of every infant's early food experience, you cannot write it on your menus. For breakfast only baby cereal is creditable for any child under 1. At snack time when they are developmentally ready, a cracker, toast, or baby biscuit must be served with their formula, breast-milk or juice.

Attention Anyone Using Assistants

If you are away from your child care home on vacation or for any other reason and you are having a helper take care of the children, please make sure all helpers or substitutes are trained on the food program. Helpers need to be aware of food program requirements such as; unannounced visits and meal observations by monitors, daily record keeping requirements, and CACFP meal pattern requirements. Helpers need to have access to all menu and attendance forms and be ready to present these to monitors when they come for unannounced visits, otherwise meals and snacks will be disallowed.

New 2009-2010 Tier Rates

We are sending out Tier 1 renewal packets for any provider that is currently eligible to claim their own children. We will also be sending out parent packets to any provider that is currently a mixed tier home.

If you are currently a Tier 2 provider and your financial income has changed, please refer to the chart below to see if you may qualify for the higher reimbursement rate. If you wish to be sent an income eligible packet to apply, please contact the main office.

Income Eligibility Guidelines					
These are the income scales used by the United States Department of Agriculture to determine Tier 1 eligibility in the Child and Adult Care Food Program					
Effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010					
# of Household Members	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	20,036	1,670	835	771	386
2	26,955	2,247	1,124	1,037	519
3	33,874	2,823	1,412	1,303	652
4	40,793	3,400	1,700	1,569	785
5	47,712	3,976	1,988	1,836	918
6	54,631	4,553	2,277	2,102	1,051
7	61,550	5,130	2,565	2,368	1,184
8	68,469	5,706	2,853	2,634	1,317
For Each Additional person, ADD	+6,919	+577	+289	+267	+134