

PROVIDERS FOOD PROGRAM

September 2009

As Providers Foods Program celebrates its 25th year, we have two staff members that we would like to recognize for their years of service to our agency. Our Director Lorna Ashton is in her 25th year and Donna Greenlay is 20 years. Thank you ladies for all your hard work and dedication.



CHANGES IN THE CREDITABLE FOODS

We have received word from the Department of Education that hotdog, grapes, nuts and nut butter are not acceptable for children under the age of 3 due to the possibility of choking and/or allergies. If you serve any of these items to children in your day care older than 3, you need to offer a different meat/meat alternate to the younger children such as cheese, yogurt, or another choice in the meat/meat alternate category .

COMMERCIALY PROCESSED MEATS & PEANUT BUTTER

Commercially purchased processed foods such as ravioli, chili, spaghetti with meat sauce, beef stew, chicken entrée (nuggets, patties, stick, fingers & popcorn), fish sticks, pocket sandwiches, and pizza rolls may not count as meat/meat alternates, unless: one of the following is available: extra cheese or meat is added, the product is CN labeled, a product analysis sheet is available stating the amount of cooked lean meat/meat alternate or documentation stating the required amount of lean meat.

Due to the quantity required, when serving peanut butter an additional meat or meat alternative such as cheese, yogurt etc must also be given.

Please remember in order to receive your reimbursement in a timely manner; your menus must be in the office by the 5th of each month. As soon as the funds are released from the state Providers Food Programs immediately issues you a check or direct deposit on the same day.

NEW TIER RATES

The USDA has announced the new reimbursement rate effective for July 1st.

	<u>TIER 1</u>	<u>TIER 2</u>
BREKFAST	\$1.19	.44
LUNCH/SUPPER	\$2.21	\$1.33
SNACK	.66	.18

If you are a provider that cares for low income children or foster children, call the office to have parent packets sent to you.

TRAINING

September 30th is fast approaching. Have you completed your 6 hours of training? If your training is not received by September 30th your October menus cannot be process until it is. If your training arrives too late you might risk the possibility of not being reimbursed.

RE-ENROLLMENT PACKET

All the re-enrollments packets were sent out in August. Please double check that every page is signed and all corrections have been made on both copies. These need to be returned by the 15th of September to continue claiming any of these children on your October menus.

WEEKENDS EVENING AND DOUBLE SESSIONS

During the month of September we will be sending out the paperwork to all providers currently approved for weekends, evenings or double sessions to re-apply for the upcoming year. You must show a need for extended hours and the children's enrollments must match the times that you are requesting.

If you are a provider that currently offers weekend or evening care and are not claiming for these extended hours you can call the office for further information or request a form sent to you.

Any provider that claims meals or snacks on evenings, weekends, or double session must have a minimum of 4 visits a year, 2 of which are unannounced during the extended hour's times.