



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Child and Adult Care Food Program: National Average Payment Rates, Day Care Home Food Service Payment Rates, and Administrative Reimbursement Rates for Sponsoring Organizations of Day Care Homes for the Period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the annual adjustments to the national average payment rates for meals and snacks served in child care centers, outside-school-hours care centers, at-risk afterschool care centers, and adult day care centers; the food service payment rates for meals and snacks served in day care homes; and the administrative reimbursement rates for sponsoring organizations of day care homes, to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. Further adjustments are made to these rates to reflect the higher costs of providing meals in Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The adjustments contained in this notice are made on an annual basis each July, as required by the laws and regulations governing the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

DATES: These rates are in effect from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Penny Burke, Branch Chief, Program Monitoring and Operational Support Division, Child Nutrition Programs, FNS USDA, 1320 Braddock Place, Suite 401, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, 720-822-8597.

Background

Pursuant to sections 4, 11, and 17 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1753, 1759a and 1766), section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) and 7 CFR 226.4, 226.12 and 226.13 of the Program regulations, notice is hereby given of the new payment rates for institutions participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. As provided for under the law, all rates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program must be revised annually, on July 1, to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, for the most recent 12-month period. These rates are in effect during the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

Adjusted Payments

The following national average payment factors and food service payment rates for meals and snacks are in effect from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. All amounts are expressed in dollars or fractions thereof. Due to a higher cost of living, the reimbursements for Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands are higher than those for all other States. The District of Columbia uses the figures specified for the contiguous States. These rates do not include the value of USDA Foods or cash-in-lieu of USDA Foods, which institutions receive as additional assistance for each lunch or supper served to participants under the Program. A notice announcing the value of USDA Foods and cash-in-lieu of USDA Foods is published separately in the *Federal Register*.

Adjustments to the national average payment rates for all meals served under the Child and Adult Care Food Program are rounded down to the nearest whole cent.

National Average Payment Rates for Centers

The changes in the national average payment rates for centers reflect a 3.85 percent increase during the 12-month period from May 2024 to May 2025 (from 367.099 in May 2024, as

previously published in the *Federal Register*, to 381.228 in May 2025) in the Food Away From Home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers.

Payments for breakfasts served are: Contiguous States - paid rate – 40 cents (1 cent increase from the 2024-2025 rate), reduced price rate – 2 dollar and 16 cents (9 cents increase), free rate – 2 dollars and 46 cents (9 cents increase); Alaska - paid rate – 62 cents (2 cents increase), reduced price rate – 3 dollars and 65 cents (15 cents increase), free rate – 3 dollars and 95 cents (15 cents increase); Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands - paid rate – 51 cents (2 cents increase), reduced price rate – 2 dollars and 88 cents (12 cents increase), free rate – 3 dollars and 18 cents (12 cents increase).

Payments for lunch or supper served are: Contiguous States - paid rate – 44 cents (2 cents increase), reduced price rate – 4 dollars and 20 cents (17 cents increase), free rate – 4 dollars and 60 cents (17 cents increase); Alaska - paid rate – 71 cents (2 cents increase), reduced price rate – 7 dollars and 5 cents (27 cents increase), free rate – 7 dollars and 45 cents (27 cents increase); Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands - paid rate – 57 cents (2 cents increase), reduced price rate – 5 dollars and 58 cents (22 cents increase), free rate – 5 dollars and 98 cents (22 cents increase).

Payments for snacks served are: Contiguous States - paid rate – 11 cents (no change), reduced price rate - 63 cents (3 cents increase), free rate – 1 dollar and 26 cents (5 cents increase); Alaska - paid rate – 18 cents (no change), reduced price rate – 1 dollar and 2 cents (4 cent increase), free rate – 2 dollars and 4 cents (7 cents increase); Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands - paid rate – 15 cents (1 cent increase), reduced price rate – 82 cents (3 cents increase), free rate – 1 dollar and 64 cents (6 cents increase).

Food Service Payment Rates for Day Care Homes

The changes in the food service payment rates for day care homes reflect a 2.23 percent increase during the 12-month period from May 2024 to May 2025 (from 305.679 in May 2024, as previously published in the *Federal Register*, to 312.491 in May 2025) in the Food At Home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers.

Payments for breakfast served are: Contiguous States - Tier I – 1 dollar and 70 cents (4 cent increase from the 2024-2025 rate) and Tier II – 61 cents (1 cents increase); Alaska - Tier I – 2 dollars and 72 cents (6 cents increase) and Tier II – 95 cents (2 cent increase); Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands - Tier I – 2 dollar and 19 cents (5 cents increase) and Tier II - 77 cents (1 cent increase).

Payments for lunch and supper served are: Contiguous States - Tier I – 3 dollars and 22 cents (7 cents increase) and Tier II – 1 dollar and 94 cents (4 cents increase); Alaska - Tier I – 5 dollars and 22 cents (12 cents increase) and Tier II – 3 dollars and 15 cents (7 cents increase); Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands - Tier I – 4 dollars and 18 cents (9 cents increase) and Tier II – 2 dollar and 52 cents (5 cents increase).

Payments for snacks served are: Contiguous States - Tier I – 96 cents (3 cent increase) and Tier II – 26 cents (no change); Alaska - Tier I – 1 dollar and 55 cents (3 cents increase) and Tier II – 43 cents (1 cent increase); Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands - Tier I – 1 dollar and 24 cents (2 cents increase) and Tier II – 34 cents (1 cent increase).

Administrative Reimbursement Rates for Sponsoring Organizations of Day Care Homes

The changes in the administrative reimbursement rates for sponsoring organizations of day care homes reflect a 2.35 percent increase during the 12-month period, May 2024 to May 2025 (from

314.069 in May 2024, as previously published in the *Federal Register*, to 321.465 in May 2025)

in the series for All Items of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers.

Monthly administrative payments to sponsors for each sponsored day care home are:

Contiguous States - Initial 50 homes – 150 dollars (3 dollar increase from 2024-2025 annual level), next 150 homes – 115 dollars (3 dollar increase), next 800 homes – 89 dollars (2 dollar increase), each additional home – 79 dollars (2 dollar increase); Alaska - Initial 50 homes – 244 dollars (6 dollar increase), next 150 homes – 186 dollars (5 dollar increase), next 800 homes – 145 dollars (3 dollar increase), each additional home – 128 dollars (3 dollar increase); Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands - Initial 50 homes – 195 dollars (4 dollar increase), next 150 homes – 149 dollars (4 dollar increase), next 800 homes – 116 dollars (2 dollar increase), each additional home – 102 dollars (2 dollar increase).

Payment Chart

The following chart illustrates the national average payment factors and food service payment rates for meals and snacks in effect from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP)							
<i>Per Meal Rates in Whole or Fractions of U.S. Dollars</i>							
<i>Effective from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026</i>							
CENTERS		BREAKFAST	LUNCH AND SUPPER¹		SUPPLEMENT		
CONTIGUOUS STATES	PAID	0.40	0.44		0.11		
	REDUCED PRICE	2.16	4.20		0.63		
	FREE	2.46	4.60		1.26		
ALASKA	PAID	0.62	0.71		0.18		
	REDUCED PRICE	3.65	7.05		1.02		
	FREE	3.95	7.45		2.04		
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS	PAID	0.51	0.57		0.15		
	REDUCED PRICE	2.88	5.58		0.82		
	FREE	3.18	5.98		1.64		
DAY CARE HOMES		BREAKFAST		LUNCH AND SUPPER		SUPPLEMENT	
		TIER I	TIER II	TIER I	TIER II	TIER I	TIER II
CONTIGUOUS STATES		1.70	0.61	3.22	1.94	0.96	0.26
ALASKA		2.72	0.95	5.22	3.15	1.55	0.43
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS		2.19	0.77	4.18	2.52	1.24	0.34
ADMINISTRATIVE REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS OF DAY CARE HOMES <i>Per Home/Per Month Rates in U.S. Dollars</i>				Initial 50	Next 150	Next 800	Each Additional
CONTIGUOUS STATES				150	115	89	79
ALASKA				244	186	145	128
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS				195	149	116	102
¹ These rates do not include the value of USDA Foods or cash-in-lieu of USDA Foods which institutions receive as additional assistance for each CACFP lunch or supper served to participants. A notice announcing the value of USDA Foods and cash-in-lieu of USDA Foods is published separately in the <i>Federal Register</i> .							

This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act. This notice has been determined to be exempt under Executive Order 12866.

Child and Adult Care Food Program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.558 and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 2 CFR 415.3-415.6).

This notice imposes no new reporting or recordkeeping provisions that are subject to OMB review in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3518).

AUTHORITY: Sections 4(b)(2), 11a, 17(c) and 17(f)(3)(B) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1753(b)(2), 1759a, 1766(f)(3)(B) and section 4(b)(1)(B) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773(b)(1)(B)).

James C. Miller,
Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA.
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