

**Summer Food Service Program**



# Program Bulletin

***Child Nutrition Programs***

***Finance & Support Services***

*P.O. Box 110500*

*Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500*

*Phone (907) 465-4788*

**To:** SFSP Sponsors

Program Reviewers

**From:** Ann Schmid

Program Specialist

**Date:** May 3, 2019

**Bulletin:** 2019-6

**Subject:** USDA Policy Memos and Information

**USDA Policy Memos, Information, and Guidance:**

* SFSP 06-2019- Federal Micro-Purchase and Simplified Acquisition Thresholds for All Child Nutrition Programs and Procurement Threshold and Applying the Simplified Acquisition Threshold in the CACFP and SFSP Procurement Standards.
* SFSP 07-2019 - Crediting Shelf-Stable, Dried and Semi-Dried Meat, Poultry, and Seafood Products in the CNP.
* SFSP 08-2019 – Crediting Coconut, Hominy, Corn Masa, and Corn Flour in the CNP.
* SFSP 09-2019 – Crediting Popcorn in the CNP.
* SFSP 10-2019 – Crediting Surimi Seafood in the CNP.
* SFSP 11-2019 – Crediting Tempeh in the CNP.
* SFSP 12-2019 – Crediting Pasta Products Made of Vegetable Flour in the CNP.
* SFSP 01-2019 – Summer Food Service Program Memoranda Rescission
* Alaska Waiver Requests Have Been Approved

**Additional Topics:**

* Civil Rights Requirements in the SFSP
* Alaska Division of Agriculture Mini-grants
* Updated Procurement Plan Training
* Have You Planned a SFSP Kick-off Event?
* 2019 Turnip the Beet Awards
* Upcoming Webinars

**Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance, and compliance with the Summer Food Service Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Programs office if you need further clarification.**

## USDA Policy Memos, Information, and Guidance:

### **SFSP 06-2019**

**Federal Micro-Purchase and Simplified Acquisition Thresholds for All Child Nutrition Programs and Procurement Threshold and Apply the Simplified Acquisition Threshold in the CACFP and SFSP Procurement Standards.**

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) increased the micro-purchase and simplified acquisition thresholds. This policy memo outlines the new thresholds for CACFP and SFSP. (See the Revised Procurement Plan Webinar below).

### Six New USDA Policy Memorandum – New Food Items for Crediting in CNPs

The following memorandum expand the flexibilities for crediting foods in the Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs), including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). The FNS remains committed to simplifying menu planning for all CNP operators, promoting the efficient use of Program funds, and ensuring menu planners and participants have a wide variety of nutritious food choices. The memorandum may be found [On the USDA Policy Memorandum Webpage](https://www.fns.usda.gov/resources?f%5B0%5D=program%3A28&f%5B1%5D=resource_type%3A160)

* SFSP 07-2019 **Crediting Shelf Stable Dried and Semi-Dried Meat, Poultry, and Seafood Products in the Child Nutrition Programs**

Dried meat products are now allowable for use throughout the CNPs as part of reimbursable meals or snacks. These will be most useful in meals served off-site, for example, during at-risk afterschool meals sites. Program operators must ensure the products meet the SFSP meal pattern by having documentation of the CN Label or getting crediting information from the manufacturer. This memorandum provides complete information for implementation.

* SFSP 08-2019 **Crediting Coconut, Hominy, Con Masa, and Corn Flour in the Child Nutrition Programs**

This memorandum provides guidance on crediting coconut, hominy, corn masa, corn flour and cornmeal in the Child Nutrition Programs. Fresh and frozen coconut can be used as a fruit based on volume served. Hominy credits toward the vegetable when served in its whole form and as a grain component when served in dried, milled form such as grits. Corn masa, corn flour and cornmeal are now creditable as a whole grain rich grain. The memorandum provides information on serving sizes, etc.

* SFSP 09-2019 **Crediting Popcorn in the Child Nutrition Programs**

This memorandum provides guidance on crediting popcorn in the Child Nutrition Programs. Popcorn may now be credited as a whole grain. Serving sizes are as follows:

3/4 cup (or .25 ounces (7 grams) popped popcorn as ¼ ounce equivalent of whole grains

1 ½ cup (or .5 ounces (14 grams) popped popcorn as ½ ounce equivalent of whole grains

3 cups or 1 ounce (28 grams) popped popcorn as 1 ounce equivalent of whole grains

USDA encourages pairing popcorn with another creditable whole grain. If using commercially prepared popcorn the operator must obtain a product formulation statement from the manufacturer.

#### SFSP 10-2019 Crediting Surimi Seafood in the Child Nutrition Programs

This memorandum provides guidance on crediting surimi seafood in the Child Nutrition Programs. It now credits as a meat/meat alternate as follows:

4.4 ounce portion of surimi credits as 1.5 ounce equivalent of meat/meat alternate

3.0 ounce portion of surimi credits as 1.0 ounce equivalent of meat/meat alternate

1.0 ounce portion of surimi credits as .25 ounce equivalent of meat/meat alternate

To credit differently than what is in this memorandum a CN label or product formulation statement must be on file.

* SFSP 11-2019 **Crediting Tempeh in the Child Nutrition Programs**

This memorandum provides guidance on crediting tempeh as a meat/meat alternate. To credit 1 ounce of tempeh as 1 ounce of meat alternate the tempeh must be made with ingredients limited to soybeans or other legumes, water, tempeh culture, and for some varieties, vinegar, seasonings, and herbs. The memorandum provides information for other varieties of tempeh that need a CN label or product formulation statement.

* SFSP 12-2019 **Crediting Pasta Products Made of Vegetable Flour in the Child Nutrition Programs**

This memorandum expands the options for vegetables by allowing pasta made with vegetable flour(s) to credit as a vegetable, even if the pasta is not served with another recognizable vegetable. Whole vegetables cut in “noodles” or spirals, such as spiralized zucchini or sweet potatoes, continue to credit toward the vegetable component.

½ cup of pasta made of 100 % vegetable flour(s) credits as ½ cup of vegetables.

Pasta products made of 100% legume flour(s) does not remove the visual recognition requirement for legume pasta crediting toward the meat alternate component.

½ cup of cooked pasta made of 100% legume flour(s) may credit as 2 ounce equivalent of meat alternate as long as additional meat alternate is served with it.

The memorandum provides specific information.

### SFSP 01-2019

#### Summer Food Service Program Memoranda Rescission

All four of the waivers Alaska had requested from the USDA have been approved. The waiver requests may be found on our website under the [Public Notification section of our SFSP website.](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp/sfsp) As stated previously, the waiver requests approvals include some record keeping requirements for sponsors who operate under the waivers. We will continue to work closely with the USDA in the coming weeks to clarify exactly what information they will require and how we can best communicate those requirements to SFSP sponsors.

## Additional Topics

### Civil Rights in the SFSP

Summer Food Service Program sponsors are required to complete Civil Rights training annually. Many Child Nutrition Programs include Civil Rights in their annual training, which would meet this requirement for the SFSP. If you have not had Civil Rights training you may do so through the [State of Alaska's eLearning Portal.](https://education.alaska.gov/ELearning)

### Alaska Division of Agriculture Mini-Grants

Want to grow some plants with kids this summer? Build a raised bed and see who can pick the most weeds? Visit a local farm? Then think about applying for a $1500- $2500 mini-grant from the Alaska Division of Agriculture! These small grants may be used by SFSP sponsors for projects or field trips that increase your participant’s knowledge, enjoyment and experience of Alaska agriculture and local foods. Please contact [Lyssa Frohling](mailto:Lyssa%20Frohling) (Lyssa.frohling@alaska.gov) if you would like to find out more about this opportunity and to get an application.

### Updated Procurement Plan Training

Per USDA Policy Memo SP20-2019; CACFP07-2019; SFSP06-2019 federal procurement thresholds have been increased: Micro-purchasing from $3,500 to $10,000 and formal from $150,000 to $250,000.  Local agencies do not have to increase local thresholds, but if they choose to, procurement plans and/or policies should also be adjusted.  The *Revised* Procurement Plan webinar will cover these changes and how they have been integrated in the template Purchasing Plan we have developed as an option for program sponsors.  This webinar will be held Monday, May 13 at 1:30 via Webex; to register please contact Dan Hysell at [Dan Hysell](mailto:dan.hysell@alaska.gov) (dan.hysell@alaska.gov) or 465-4969.

### Turnip the Beet Awards

Each summer the USDA recognizes exceptional SFSP sponsors with the Turnip the Beet Awards. Are you going the extra mile to provide kids at your sites with exceptionally nutritious and appetizing summer meals? Are you serving local or culturally appropriate foods at your sites? Do you hold taste tests so that kids can be a part of meal planning? If so then the USDA wants to know and possibly give you an award! You may find more information at the [USDA Turnip the Beet website.](https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/turnip-the-beet)

## Upcoming Webinars

### Additional Meat/Meat Alternates for CNP’s: Crediting Tempeh and Surimi

Wednesday, May 8, 2019 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM AKDT

This is the second webinar of the *Crediting Updates for Child Nutrition Programs: Be in the know!* webinar series from the USDA. This webinar “will provide an overview of the crediting updates resulting from the Request for Information and provide crediting technical assistance with hands-on practice specifically for tempeh and surimi.  All are welcome to attend, including program operators, State agencies, and the food industry.” You may register for this webinar here: [Link to Webinar Registration](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__usda-2Dfns.webex.com_usda-2Dfns_onstage_g.php-3FMTID-3De4445ae763254220aad96b01342ebcaef&d=DwMGaQ&c=teXCf5DW4bHgLDM-H5_GmQ&r=9NKLV-6Q2MEj2n1yMwnYI62P2Fj7grQ2P8jW_kq6Dbw&m=rYOoeeHMLwQP7X6KsOrnEU6Ns5U-H-aPNxiO3w4OTNw&s=QpsPt9wQ_umTByoOw7rBQJeEDfYHZ-Hcfa2_GQzUORQ&e=)

### **Revised Procurement Plan Webinar**

May 13, 2019 1:30 pm

The *Revised* Procurement Plan webinar will cover the program changes in SFSP06-2019 and how they have been integrated in the template Purchasing Plan we have developed as an option for program sponsors.  This webinar will be held Monday, May 13 at 1:30 via Webex; to register please contact [Dan Hysell](mailto:dan.hysell@alaska.gov) (dan.hysell@alaska.gov) or 465-4969.

**Contact Information**

Ann Schmid, Program Specialist

[Ann Schmid](mailto:ann.schmid@alaska.gov) (ann.schmid@alaska.gov)

(907) 465-4788

Dan Hysell, Education Program Assistant

[Dan Hysell](mailto:dan.hysell@alaska.gov) (dan.hysell@alaska.gov)

(907) 465-4969

**Non-Discrimination Statement:**

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.  Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at: [How to File a Complaint](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

1400 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: [USDA Complaint Email](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov) (program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.