

DC Free Summer Meals Program

KIDS & TEENS EAT FREE



FAQ for Parents and Guardians

WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS?

All children and teens 18 years of age or younger are eligible.

DO I NEED TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE?

"Open" sites do not require that anyone sign up in advance. Children and teens can simply show up at the site to get their meal. "Closed" sites, like summer camps, require registration.

HOW DO I FIND A SITE NEAR ME?

You can text "FOOD" to 877-877 to find the D.C. Free Summer Meals site closest to you.

CAN MY CHILD OR TEEN GO TO DIFFERENT MEAL SITES?

Yes, your child or teen can attend any open site to receive free meals. They do not need to attend the same site throughout the summer.

DO I HAVE TO SUBMIT ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION FOR MY CHILD TO PARTICIPATE?

No, you do not need to submit income information, legal status, or any personal information for your child to receive a meal.

CAN MY CHILD BRING THE MEAL BACK HOME OR SAVE IT FOR A LATER TIME?

No, children and teens must eat the meal at the site.



D.C. Hunger Solutions

Ending hunger in the nation's capital

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WHEN IS THE FOOD SERVED?

Meals are served June through August. Specific times and dates depend on the site. A site may have breakfast, lunch, dinner, or a snack. Locate your nearest site for specific details!

WHAT TYPE OF FOOD IS SERVED?

Type of food varies by site, but all food served meets federal nutrition standards set by the USDA. At a minimum, meals must include milk, a vegetable or fruit, grains/breads, and a meat or other protein (excluding breakfast).

IF I ALREADY RECEIVE BENEFITS FROM SNAP OR WIC, CAN MY CHILD STILL RECEIVE A FREE MEAL?

Of course! The D.C. Free Summer Meals Program is offered in addition to the meals your children receive during the school year. Any child or teen will be served.

WHY SHOULD MY CHILD GET A MEAL WHEN THERE ARE OTHER CHILDREN WHO MIGHT NEED IT MORE?

The program is federally funded and serves meals based on the number of children showing up. Greater attendance will not limit the amount of meals that are able to be served.

WHAT IF MY QUESTION WAS NOT ANSWERED?

Contact Paige Pokorney at PPokorney@dchunger.org with any additional questions!



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