

DCYF Summer Food Program:
Frequently Asked Questions for Potential Distribution Site

1. *What is the Summer Food Program?*

The Summer Food Program is a USDA federally-funded child nutrition program designed to provide free meals for youth when school is not in session. The San Francisco Department of Children, Youth and Their Families is a local sponsor of this program, which means we provide financial and administrative support to ensure that FREE meals are available in all high need neighborhoods of San Francisco to any youth 18 and under.

2. *What are the dates for the Summer Food Program this year?*

The Summer Food Program will run for 12 weeks, from May 30, 2017- August 18, 2017.

3. *What will be expected of food distribution sites/agencies?*

There are a number of federal regulations and expectations that are required of selected distribution sites. This program is NOT designed to simply provide free food to summer programs. General expectations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Site is open to the public and serves meals only to youth 18 and under during the days and times the site commits to serve lunches and/or snacks.
2. Serve the exact menu items and serving sizes provided by DCYF' food vendor. Additional food may be served, but not substituted.
3. Provide adequate space and supervision during the meal service to accommodate youth. All food must be eaten on-site.
4. Complete all required forms DCYF requests, including daily meal count forms for each approved mealtime, and submit them weekly to DCYF staff.
5. Regularly report to DCYF any changes in mealtimes, staffing, numbers of meals needed, dates food will not be served, etc.
6. Follow all Dept. of Public Health guidelines to ensure that food is safe and serving areas are sanitary.
7. Ensure that staff will be on site prior to lunch time to receive deliveries
8. Serve all youth on a first-come, first-served basis without discrimination of race, color, national origin, sex, religion or disability.
9. Attend MANDATORY site training sessions, even if the site has participated in the past.
10. Posting outreach materials on-site that are visible from the street and engaging in additional program outreach to community.

4. *Will all the sites that apply be approved?*

The number of applicants usually exceed the total number of sites we can select. DCYF is limited to selecting 85 sites this summer. Past participation does NOT GUARANTEE a site will be selected again. DCYF collaborates with other sponsors in the city to ensure the maximum number of youth is served meals throughout the summer. If DCYF believes your site would benefit from their services or would support the whole picture of serving more meals to youth in San Francisco, DCYF will strongly recommend other Sponsors. Please keep in mind this will

have to do with needs for meals (locations of sites and other specific needs we may not be able to accommodate).

5. Our program will be operating out of a SFUSD campus, will DCYF consider providing meals to our site?

DCYF has been coordinating with SFUSD to support the implementation phase of their [new Wellness Policy](#) passed in April 2015. The policy states that sites operating on SFUSD campuses will need to be supported by SFUSD Nutrition Services for any meal service. For SFUSD Summer Meals Application visit this link: <http://www.sfusd.edu/en/nutrition-school-meals/meals/summer-meal-service.html>

6. What are the criteria you will be using to select sites?

Priority of sites include:

1. DCYF Grantee
2. Sites must submit completed applications within the specified application period and meet all requirements specified in the application.
3. Per USDA regulations, DCYF will be using SFUSD and state data to determine if sites are within walking distance to a SFUSD school where 50% or more of their students qualify for free/reduced-price lunches
4. Sites generally cannot be within ¼ mile of another program. Exceptions will be made on a case by case basis (as approved by the State).
5. Priority will be given to sites open and accessible to youth in the community beyond those that regularly attend the program.
6. Priority will be given to sites in the neighborhoods with the highest need (as indicated by DCYF Index of Need, Community Needs Assessment and US Census)
7. Priority will be given to sites serving lunches or both lunches and snacks.
8. Priority will be given to sites capable of serving a larger number of youth.

7. What if we don't have the room or the staff to accommodate youth from the community that aren't part of our program?

Strong preference will be given to sites that are open to the community (during meal times only) because the purpose of the program is to ensure citywide access to healthy meals for as many youth as possible. However, we will balance this preference with other priorities, and recognize that some sites have specific needs around safety and access. **Please note that sites that are considered "closed" sites may have to submit additional paperwork for processing.**

8. Do you take paper applications?

No. All applicants must complete the online application, which can be accessed March 17th – March 31st, by visiting: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016summerfoodapplication>

9. How will we know if you've received our application?

The online application should verify the application was submitted once the last page is completed. DCYF will also be sending an email confirmation to applicants on March 24th and

April 3rd. DCYF may possibly follow up with sites if there are additional questions regarding the application.

10. When will we find out if we are approved?

The deadline for applications is Friday, March 31, 2017 at 5pm. We will notify all sites of the status of their application by Monday, April 10. If there is a delay, we will email all applicants.

11. What will the food be like?

DCYF will be collaborating with Revolution Foods to provide lunches and snacks for our program. Lunches will be prepared fresh and locally, offering both hot and cold culturally diverse options. Summer lunches and snacks will be similar from the school year suppers and snacks. Please check out our current menu on our website: To get an idea of some of the meal provided by Revolution Foods, you can check out the current menu on our website at <http://dcyf.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=4747> . All meals will meet USDA child nutrition program minimum standards of nutrition. Menus and other details will be discussed at the mandatory site training in May.

12. What if my site is only open one or two days out of the week?

One of DCYF's priorities is to pick a site that is most able to serve a larger number of youth. If sites are open for more than 3 days of the week, they are able to serve more youth. However, this priority will be balanced with other priorities to ensure that each neighborhood has access to free meals.

13. Will DCYF be providing meals to sites going on field trips during the summer?

DCYF will be providing field trip meals for approved sites that request them in advance. We will only be able to accommodate up to three fieldtrip meals a week. Fieldtrip meals will all be cold.. Any site that wishes to receive field trip meals will be required to submit their field trip schedule to DCYF prior to the planned field trip before the required deadlines. DCYF cannot accommodate last minute field trips requests. This will be discussed in further detail at the mandatory site training.

14. Will DCYF provide vegetarian meal options and meet specific dietary requests?

Vegetarian and lunch options are available every day and all snacks are vegetarian. Approved sites will have the option of ordering a certain number of vegetarian lunches for their site. Accommodations for food allergies or those who may want vegan options may be requested with a doctor's note, but are not guaranteed.

15. What kind of outreach are the sites expected to do?

As the application specifies, all approved sites will be REQUIRED to post a banner and signs that are visible from the street advertising that they are a Summer Food site. Sites that are renting or borrowing space must have approval from the property holder to post appropriate signage and allow access to community children. Additionally, sites are expected to do some form of community outreach to ensure that nearby families know this resource exists. This could include

posting flyers or email blasts to local churches and businesses, including information in newsletters and newspapers, etc.

16. Do all of our summer staff have to attend the MANDATORY Summer Food Program training or just one person?

Only one person is required to attend from each selected site, but more may attend if desired. We recommend that the person who will be serving the meals directly or those training the staff to serve meals attend this mandatory training. Before the summer program begins, all approved sites will have to submit a form verifying that all staff from that site who will be serving food, supervising mealtimes, or completing paperwork for this program has been appropriately trained by whomever attends the DCYF training.

17. Do I still need to submit an application even though I am a DCYF Summer Grantee?

YES. You need to submit an application. Anyone who wants to be a summer lunch site must complete the application. If you are both a DCYF grantee and a summer meal site, you will have the option of being a summer meal site for the remainder of your grant, as long as your program follows summer meal regulations and can meet annual criteria, as determined by state and federal requirements.

18. Is DCYF providing supper meals this year? How will the supper meals operate?

DCYF will be providing suppers during the 2017-18 school year and is gathering information in the Summer Meals Application to help us plan. We will be able to provide more details of supper meals during summer 2017.

19. How is snack different now with Revolution Foods as the new snack provider?

DCYF is pleased to announce that Revolution Foods is our new provider for snacks. Since this is the first summer in which Revolution Foods will be our new snack provider, operations and delivery of snacks is different from previous summers. Please read carefully as this may affect how your site applies to the Summer Meal Program:

- 1) Your site is interested in applying as a lunch and snack site:
 - a. Revolution Foods will delivery your lunches and snacks together on a daily basis.
Your site will no longer have to pick up snacks or get a separate delivery for snacks.
- 2) Your site is interested in applying as a snack only site:
 - a. Sites that are snack only will have to pick up snacks on a weekly basis at the DCYF office, located at 1390 Market, Suite 900, San Francisco, CA 94102. There is a loading zone where sites are able to park their vehicle in order to pick up snacks. Snack only sites will be assigned a pick-up timeframe based on availability of the loading zone, site's needs, and preferences. However, due to limitations of storage at the DCYF office, DCYF may not be able to store all the snacks for sites that wish to receive only snacks. Sites are encouraged to explore lunches and lunches/snacks to meet their food needs.

20. Will DCYF require sites to have a Food Handler's certificate?

Yes, all sites are requirement to have at least one person on site during service that has a Food Handler's certificate. More information about how to obtain one will be provided, after sites are selected.

21. Will DCYF provide rental equipment for sites who need them?

DCYF understands the value of quality meals and the need for equipment to keep food wholesome prior to service. In order to follow the Dept. of Public Health regulations as temperature as a public health control, DCYF is working diligently to provide cooling and heating equipment for sites that need them. Please answer honestly, so DCYF can order the appropriate number of equipment. Depending on need, DCYF may not be able to accommodate everyone. Rental equipment will be based on priority and on a case-by-case basis.

All sites are required to have refrigeration in order to store all the meals they are receiving through the program. If your site does not have enough refrigeration to store all the meals or does not have space for a refrigerator, please make a comment in the application and DCYF will contact your site to discuss options. DCYF will provide fridge thermometers for sites that do not have one. Not all sites are required to have heating equipment for their site; however, this may meet that your site may only be able to receive cold meals. DCYF will try to provide heating thermometers (to measure the temperature of hot foods) for those that requested them.

Please keep in mind that some of this equipment will have specific electrical requirements and your site will be responsible for ensuring that your building is able to accommodate them. For any questions regarding equipment needs, please email summer.food@dcyf.org.

22. *Is there anything else we have to do at this point?*

No. DCYF may contact you by phone or email requesting clarification about your application. Once your agency is notified about your application, status on Monday, April 10 DCYF will give information about next steps. If anything from your site's application changes, please notify DCYF immediately at summer.food@dcyf.org.