November 25, 2013

Memorandum

To: Institutions Participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program
Sponsors Participating on the Summer Food Service Program

From: Arnette Cowan, MS, RD, LDN
Head, Special Nutrition Programs

Subject: Census Data Release: Fiscal Year 2014

The purpose of this memorandum is to announce the new schedule for release of census data used by State agencies and Program operators for area eligibility determinations in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the National School Lunch Program.

Area eligibility of new CACFP day care homes and SFSP and SSO sites may be established using the most recent data available obtained by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) from the Census Bureau. For the past two years, FNS has released new Census Bureau data each February. However, this practice has made early recruitment and approval of SFSP and SSO sites difficult because the data used to qualify sites was subject to change.

In an effort to encourage early recruitment and approval of SFSP and SSO sites and increase access to summer meals, beginning in Federal Fiscal Year 2015, FNS will annually release new Census Bureau data in October. Therefore, the next census dataset will be released in October 2014. Until new data is released, State agencies and CACFP, SFSP, and SSO sponsors should continue to use the dataset released in February 2013.
The current dataset has been provided to the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC), which has included the data in their CACFP and SFSP mapping websites at http://www.fairdata2000.com/CACFP and http://www.fairdata2000.com/SummerFood.

If you have questions, please contact your regional consultant.

c: SNP Staff