



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health – Women’s & Children’s Health Section
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Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

April 26, 2011

CACFP 11-12
SFSP 11-10

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Institutions Participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
All Sponsors Participating in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

FROM: Arnette Cowan, MS, RD, LDN
Supervisor, Special Nutrition Programs

SUBJECT: Eligibility of Evacuated Children from Japan and Bahrain

Many families are being evacuated from Japan due to the recent disasters. Some families are moving to safer areas, including the United States. These students are eligible for meal benefits if they enroll in a participating school or institution. This memorandum provides guidance on providing free or reduced price benefits to these students and, if applicable, their host families.

Determining Eligibility for the Child and Adult Care Program and Summer Food Service Program (CACFP/SFSP)

Sponsors and institutions in the CACFP or SFSP that require eligibility information can accept certification of the child’s or adult’s homeless status from the agency that assisted with the evacuation or is providing shelter. If the child is not residing in an emergency shelter, the institution should have an adult living with the child complete an income eligibility form indicating that the child is homeless. No further information is required to certify that child’s eligibility.

Determining Eligibility for Host Families

FNS would also like to provide its policy on certifying children designated as homeless when they reside with another household and how it impacts the host family. A child or family may temporarily reside with another household and still be considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. In these cases the household size and income of the host family is not taken into consideration in determining the free meal eligibility for the child(ren) designated as homeless by the LEA’s liaison.



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Additionally, when a host family applies for free and reduced price meals for their own children, the host family may include the homeless family as household members if the host family provides financial support to the homeless family, such as shelter, utilities, clothing or food. In such cases, the host family must also include any income received by the homeless family. The LEA, or the appropriate child care or summer institution, determines eligibility for the host family in the traditional manner.

However, free meal eligibility for the homeless child is based on the documentation provided by the homeless liaison or other source, even when the child is included on the host family's free and reduced price meal application.

Other issues concerning evacuated children and families will be addressed as they arise.

c: SNP Staff