Wyoming Department of Education CACFP

Child Nutrition Programs Policy CACFP 02-14

Effective 10/01/2008

**Child and Adult Care Food Program Required Time Between Meals**

PURPOSE:

We wish to set forth the Wyoming policy regarding the time between meals requirements. If any part of this policy conflicts with the regulations or memoranda issued by the USDA, the federal regulations and memoranda shall take precedence.

SCOPE:

This relates to participating CACFP centers and Sponsors of CACFP affiliated and unaffiliated centers and/or homes of a Sponsoring Organization

DESCRIPTION:

Based on information on best practices for feeding children, discussions with program participants, guidance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and on-going concerns regarding obesity in children, the Wyoming Department of Education changed its policy regarding the amount of time that can be scheduled between meal services. Instead of allowing only two hours between the beginning of one meal or snack and the beginning of the next meal or snack, to three hours from the beginning of one to the beginning of the next meal service.

This policy went into effect on October 1, 2008.

For example, if breakfast is served at 7:30 a.m., the next meal service time can be no earlier than 10:30 a.m. As another example, if an a.m. snack is served at 9:30 a.m., and then lunch could be no earlier than 12:30 p.m.

We are also establishing standardized time frames for meal services for the major meals of breakfast, lunch, and dinner. This should assist you in adjusting your schedule for making this change and identifying where snacks can be placed during the day.

* Breakfast – 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
* Lunch – 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
* Dinner – 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Keep in mind as you are establishing your meal schedules, that USDA still only reimburses for a maximum of three meals per child per day and that at least one of those meals must be a snack.

If your program cannot meet these new time standards, you may submit a written request for an exception to them. That exception must give specific reasons why the time standards cannot be met, what you propose as far as times for your program, and reasons why you feel your time standards are more appropriate for your program. Please address your exception request to the following:

* For center programs, send to Judy DiRienzo, Wyoming Department of Education, Hathaway Bldg., 2nd Floor, Cheyenne, WY 82002-0050.
* For home providers, send to your sponsoring organization.

Each exception request will be evaluated, but the request does not mean that automatic approval will be given. We will evaluate each request on a case-by-case basis for validity and need.

SOURCE:

Wyoming Department of Education

Nutrition Programs Section

Child and Adult Care Food Program