



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Community Sponsors Sought for 2025 Summer Food Service Program

Rural sponsors are especially needed, and may operate convenient, non-congregate feeding sites

(BOISE) – The Idaho Department of Education continues to seek local sponsors to help provide healthy, balanced meals to Idaho children through the USDA’s Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). The SFSP provides free meals and snacks to children 1 -18 years of age by operating sites located in low-income areas during the summer months.

When schools are closed during summer months, the challenge of reaching children in need of support grows. SFSP sponsors help bridge the summer nutrition gap by providing nutritious meals. They are reimbursed for each qualifying breakfast, lunch, snack and/or supper served at approved sites.

For the 2025 program, sponsors may be, but are not limited to:

- Public or private nonprofit schools;
- public or private nonprofit residential camps;
- local, municipal, county, tribal or state governments;
- public or private nonprofit colleges or universities that participate in the National Youth Sports Program; and
- Upward Bound programs, religious organizations, libraries and nonprofit organizations.

Sponsors are sought statewide, **especially in rural areas where coverage gaps exist**. Sponsors in rural areas have the option to participate in non-congregate meal services, allowing for meals to be picked up and consumed offsite.

The list of areas of need include:

Region 1:

- The SFSP lacks sponsors in Boundary and Shoshone counties. More coverage is needed in Benewah County.

Region 2:

- The SFSP lacks sponsors in Clearwater County. More coverage is needed in Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nez Perce counties.

Region 3:

- The SFSP lacks sponsors in Owyhee County. More coverage is needed in Adams, Boise, Elmore and Washington counties.

Region 4:

- The SFSP lacks sponsors in Camas County. More coverage is needed in Lincoln County.

Region 5:

- The SFSP lacks sponsors in Caribou County. More coverage is needed in Bear Lake, Oneida, Power and Preston counties.

Region 6:

- The SFSP lacks sponsors in Butte, Custer, Fremont and Teton counties. More coverage is needed in Lemhi County.

Sponsor applications are due May 2. Trainings must also be completed prior to receiving approval to operate the SFSP.

For more information on becoming an SFSP sponsor or feeding site, please call 208-332-6828 or visit <https://www.sde.idaho.gov/cnp/sfsp/>.

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Debbie Critchfield, Superintendent of Public Instruction

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