FISCAL YEAR 2003
CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
OPERATIONAL MEMO #24

TO: Child and Adult Care Food Program Sponsors

FROM: Julie Stark, Interim Director
Office of School Support Services

DATE: July 15, 2003

SUBJECT: Reimbursement of Infant Meals

The Child and Adult Care Food Program reimburses child care centers, family day care homes, emergency shelters and schools for the costs of serving nutritious meals including the costs of preparation and clean up of meals to infants. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has revised program policy to recognize the non-food related cost of serving infants by allowing reimbursement for meals containing only infant formula, whether supplied by the caregiver or by the parent.

Effective immediately, reimbursable meals for infants may contain either breastmilk or iron-fortified formula, or both, supplied by the caregiver or by the parent. However, to receive reimbursement, the caregiver must always offer the infant a complete, developmentally appropriate meal. Because we are recognizing the labor involved in serving meals to infants, the meal must be served and fed to the infant by the caregiver.

If you have additional questions about the reimbursement of infant meals, please contact our office at (517) 373-7391.

Please keep this memo on file or in a notebook for quick and easy reference.