

Michigan Department of Education
Child and Adult Care Food Program

Emergency Shelters

What is the Child and Adult Care Food Program?

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally funded child nutrition program that provides cash reimbursement to eligible organizations serving healthy meals and snacks to children in emergency shelters. The goals of the CACFP are to:

- Improve the health and nutrition of children
- Promote good eating habits.

Which shelters can participate?

Public or private nonprofit organizations that provide temporary shelter and congregate meal services to homeless children including:

- Family shelters
- Domestic violence shelters
- Day shelters that provide a safe place and address for the homeless for a temporary period of time
- Residential childcare institutions (RCCI) that serve a distinct group of homeless children who are not enrolled in the RCCI's regular program.

Are there any licensing requirements?

Emergency shelters are not required to be licensed for child day care. However, all emergency shelters must meet state or local health and safety standards.

Who is eligible for CACFP meals and snacks?

- Children age 18 and under in an emergency shelter and not enrolled in a RCCI regular program.
- Persons with disabilities of any age in an emergency shelter serving a majority of persons who are age 18 and under.

How much can a shelter receive?

Shelters can be reimbursed for up to 3 meals or 2 meals and 1 snack per child each day at the following rates:

Breakfast	Lunch	Supper	Snack
\$1.97	\$3.66	\$3.66	\$1.00

An additional \$.26 cash-in-lieu of commodities is paid for each lunch and supper claimed. These rates are effective from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

What are the meal requirements?

Children age 1 and over:

Breakfast	Lunch and Supper	Snack (Serve 2 from the 5 food groups)
Fluid Milk	Fluid Milk	Fluid Milk
Fruit, Vegetable	Meat or Meat Alternate	Meat or Meat Alternate
Grain/Bread or Meat/Meat Alternate	Vegetable	Vegetable
	Fruit or Vegetable	Fruit
	Grain/Bread	Grain/Bread

Meal requirements for infants vary according to age. See the [CACFP website](http://www.michigan.gov/cacfp) (<http://www.michigan.gov/cacfp>) for specific infant meal pattern requirements.

All meals and snacks must be served in a group setting at no separate charge.

What is the record keeping requirements?

Shelters must maintain records of:

- Proof of residency in an emergency shelter – including child’s name, date of birth and period of residency.
- Center attendance – daily attendance rosters.
- Meal attendance – taken at the time the meal/snack is served.
- Menus for each meal and snack, including infant
- Food service operating costs and income, including donated foods – to ensure the CACFP reimbursement funds are used for the food service operation principally for the benefit of the children.

How do I apply?

The application is part of the Michigan Electronic Grants System Plus (MEGS+), a web-based application system. For more information, visit the [CACFP website](http://www.michigan.gov/cacfp), email MDE-CNAP-CACFP@michigan.gov, or call 517-241-5353.

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