



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Child Care Center Sponsors

FROM: John D. Frassinelli, Bureau Chief
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

DATE: February 14, 2020

SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum No. 3C-20
I. School Area Eligibility for At-risk Afterschool Meals Programs
II. Effects of Busing on Area Eligibility in the CACFP

I. School Area Eligibility for At-risk Afterschool Meals Programs

Attached for your information is the current list of area eligible schools for At-risk Afterschool Meals Programs, e.g., at-risk snack/supper programs. This list includes schools where 50 percent or more of the enrolled children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) in the month of October 2019. The new school data is effective **February 1, 2020**, and impacts:

- programs initiating an at-risk afterschool snack/supper program; and
- the redetermination of programs whose current eligibility was based on October 2014 school data distributed in 2015.

The new list is based on school data from the month of October 2019, and reflects additions and deletions of schools since last year.

The following towns and schools have been added to the list since last year:

<u>Town</u>	<u>Schools</u>
Bristol	Northeast Middle School
EASTCONN	Scotland Elementary School
Enfield	Enfield High School
	Enfield Street School
	John F. Kennedy Middle School
Manchester	Highland Park Elementary School
Milford	Pumpkin Delight School
Naugatuck	Cross Street School
	Maple Hill School
Shelton	Sunnyside School
Stafford	Stafford Elementary School
Stratford	Bunnell High School
	Second Hill Lane School
Thompson	Mary R. Fisher Elementary School
Vernon	Center Road School
Windsor Locks	Windsor Locks High School

The following towns and schools have closed or no longer meet the 50 percent enrollment requirements for area eligibility:

<u>Town</u>	<u>Schools</u>
Chaplin	Chaplin Elementary School
East Windsor	Broad Brook Elementary School
Fairfield	McKinley School
Groton	Claude Chester School West Side Middle School
Hartford	Wish Museum School
Manchester	Washington School
New Haven	Quinnipiac Real World Math STEM School Strong 21 st Century Comm. Magnet & Sciences Lab School
Stonington	West Broad Street School
Torrington	East School
Wallingford	Cook Hill School
West Hartford	Smith School
Windsor	Clover Street Elementary School

II. Effects of Busing on Area Eligibility in the CACFP

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has noted that a potential barrier to at-risk program participation can arise when school children in public school systems are assigned (by way of busing) to a school outside the attendance area of their neighborhood school. Busing can have the effect of causing a site located in an area in which poor economic conditions exist to be designated as ineligible, based on enrollment data that has been adjusted to reflect student reassignments.

This situation may occur in any program in which site eligibility is based on the percentage of children eligible for free and reduced-price meals in the NSLP. It is especially significant to sites applying to participate in the Summer Food Service Program, the At-risk Afterschool Meals Program under the CACFP, the Seamless Summer Option under the NSLP, and the Afterschool Snack Program under the NSLP. This is because the eligibility of meal service sites for these situations is generally associated with the neighborhood school where the children live, rather than where children actually attend school.

To address this issue, the USDA has determined that in situations where public school districts routinely bus children from their neighborhood school to other schools, site eligibility based on school data may be determined using one of two methods. The program sponsor may determine eligibility based on the enrollment/attendance data obtained for:

- the school the children attend and are bused to; or
- the school the children would have attended were it not for the district's busing policy (the neighborhood school where the children live).

Program sponsors may determine a site to be area eligible in situations as described above, only if the school food authority is able to document the percentage of children eligible for free and

reduced-price meals at each school before and after students are reassigned. The same method of determining site eligibility must be used for all sites participating under that program sponsor to avoid duplicate counting.

In all cases involving districtwide busing, sponsors should contact the CSDE Child Nutrition Unit for guidance.

Questions may be directed to the CACFP consultants below.

CACFP Assignments	Consultant	E-mail and Phone
Child and adult day care centers	Susan Boyle	susan.boyle@ct.gov 860-807-2074
Child and adult day care centers	Benedict Onye	benedict.onye@ct.gov 860-807-2080

JDF:shb

Attachment

Important: This is a numbered Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) operational memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain for future reference. All CSDE operational memoranda are posted on the CSDE's [Operational Memoranda for the CACFP](#) webpage.