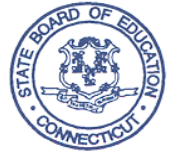




STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



NOTE: Obsolete information on this memo is indicated by strikethrough text, e.g., ~~text~~. Revised/new text is highlighted in orange.

TO: National School Lunch, School Breakfast and Special Milk Program Sponsors

FROM: ~~Paul F. Flinter, Chief~~
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

DATE: May 28, 2008

SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum No. 17-08

- I. E-Rate Audits and the Sharing of Free and Reduced Eligibility Information
- II. The Special Milk Program

I. **E-Rate Audits and the Sharing of Free and Reduced Eligibility Information** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) through the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) administers the E-Rate program. USAC provides discounts to schools to obtain affordable telecommunication and Internet access. The discount rates are based on the percentage of children who are approved for free and reduced-price school meals. To support the discount rate given to schools to obtain services, E-Rate auditors are requesting documentation of the discount calculation. Additionally, some E-Rate auditors have asked for a list of eligible students for selected schools along with the applications for those students.

This serves as a reminder that local education agencies (sponsors of the Child Nutrition Programs) currently **cannot release** individual children's eligibility status or their applications to these E-Rate auditors. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is working with the FCC to determine if the requested information is releasable under Section 9(b)(6) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. However, until a decision is made by USDA, this information can not be shared with these auditors.

II. **The Special Milk Program**

The purpose of the Special Milk Program (SMP) is to provide milk to children that **do not have access** to the Federal child nutrition meal programs. (For more information on the SMP go to <http://www.fns.usda.gov/end/Milk/Default.htm> <http://www.fns.usda.gov/smp/special-milk-program>).

School districts that have all day kindergarten or all day pre-kindergarten classes may be eligible to participate in the SMP *or* they may be eligible to participate in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) and/or National School Lunch Program (NSLP). All day kindergarten (or all day Pre-K) classes may not participate in the SMP *and* another meal program.

The Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education strongly recommends that districts that have all day kindergarten (or all day Pre-K) classes choose to participate in the NSLP and/or SBP to provide nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free meals to children each school day.

Questions pertaining to this memorandum may be directed to:

<i>COUNTY</i>	<i>CONSULTANT</i>	<i>EMAIL</i>	<i>PHONE</i>
Hartford and Tolland	Teri Dandeneau	teri.dandeneau@ct.gov	860-807-2079
New London, Windham and Middlesex	RoseAnna Holliday	roseanna.holliday@ct.gov	860-807-2064
Fairfield and Litchfield	Henry Garcia	henry.garcia@ct.gov	860-807-2048
New Haven	Bob Zwack	robert.zwack@ct.gov	860-807-2081

For updated contact information, see the [Contact Information for School Nutrition Programs Web page](#).

PFF:tdd

~~Important: This is a numbered Operational memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain in a binder for your future reference. Operational Memoranda are also posted on the Child Nutrition Website:~~
<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2626&q=320676> Important: This is a numbered Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) operational memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain in a binder for future reference. All CSDE operational memoranda are posted on the CSDE's [Operational Memoranda for School Nutrition Programs Web page](#).