

CARE Connection

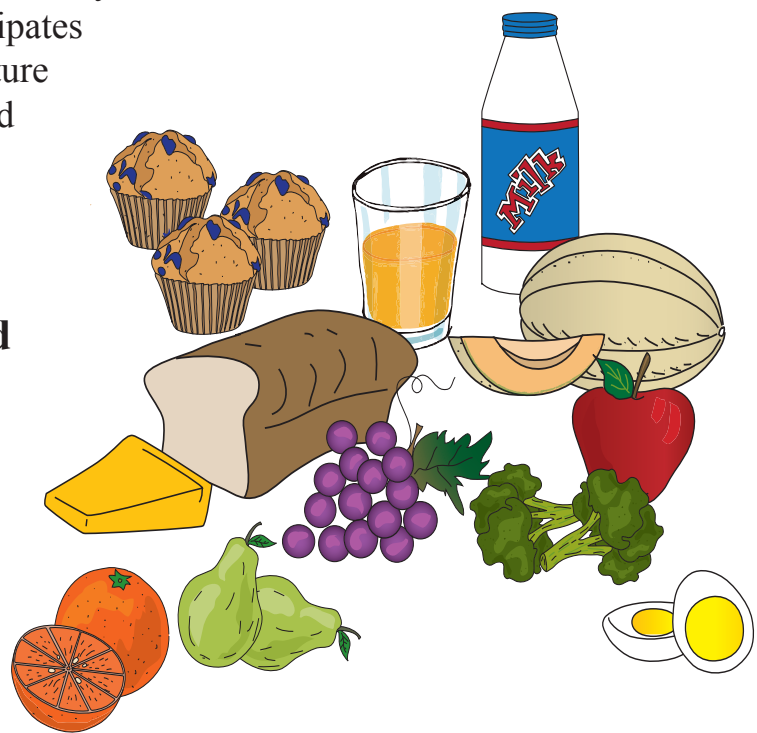
Introduction to CACFP Family Materials

Parents' Guide to CACFP in Family Day Care Homes

Congratulations, you have chosen a family day care home provider who participates in the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The child care food program offers you and your child several important benefits.

Serving Nutritious Meals and Snacks

When a provider participates in the CACFP you know that your child receives nutritious meals and snacks while in child care. Your child care provider follows the CACFP Meal Pattern requirements designed to provide good nutrition to your child.



Learning About Food and Eating

Through the child care food program your child care provider receives nutrition training to assist in providing nutritious meals and maintaining a healthy and safe environment. Your child care provider also receives training on how to help children develop healthful eating habits that will last a lifetime.

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Knowing Meals Are Planned to Meet Childrens' Needs

The sponsor of the child care food program reviews the meals and snacks your child receives monthly to ensure that they have met the CACFP Meal Pattern requirements. In addition to the monthly review of menus, the sponsor of the program will visit your provider's home several times a year to ensure high quality nutrition and sanitation practices are always in place.

Supporting the Cost of Meals and Snacks

Through the child care food program your provider will receive reimbursement for meals and snacks that meet the CACFP Meal Pattern requirements. Your provider may be reimbursed for a maximum of two meals and a snack, or two snacks and a meal, for each day a child is in care. When your child participates in the food program you will not be asked to pay a separate fee for meals and snacks served at the family child care home and claimed on the CACFP.

If you are asked to complete an income application for the CACFP fill it out on time and return it according to the directions.

You can see that the CACFP is a great benefit to you and your child. These benefits are available to you because your child care provider cares about nutrition and wants to offer your child the very best quality care.

