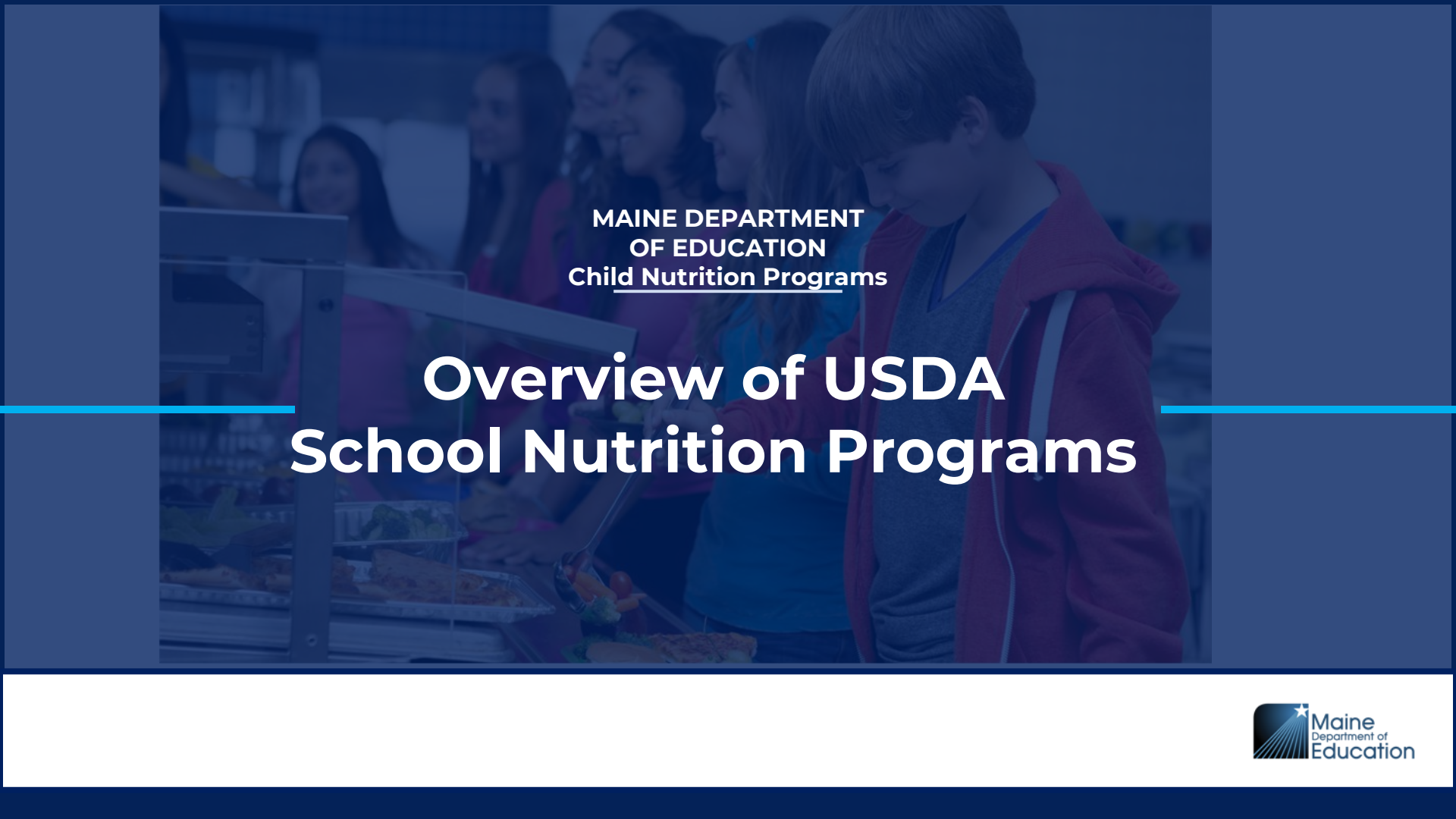


A background image of a school cafeteria with students in line at a food service counter. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

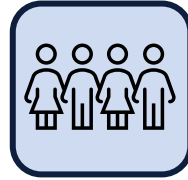
MAINE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION
Child Nutrition Programs

Overview of USDA School Nutrition Programs

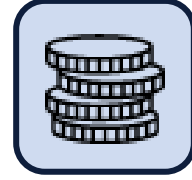
Objectives



USDA
SCHOOL MEAL
PROGRAMS



SPONSOR
RESPONSIBILITIES
& PROGRAM
REQUIREMENTS



REIMBURSEMENT

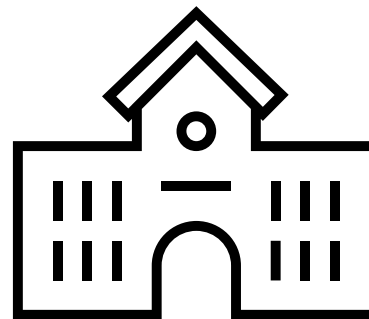
FEDERAL



STATE



SPONSOR

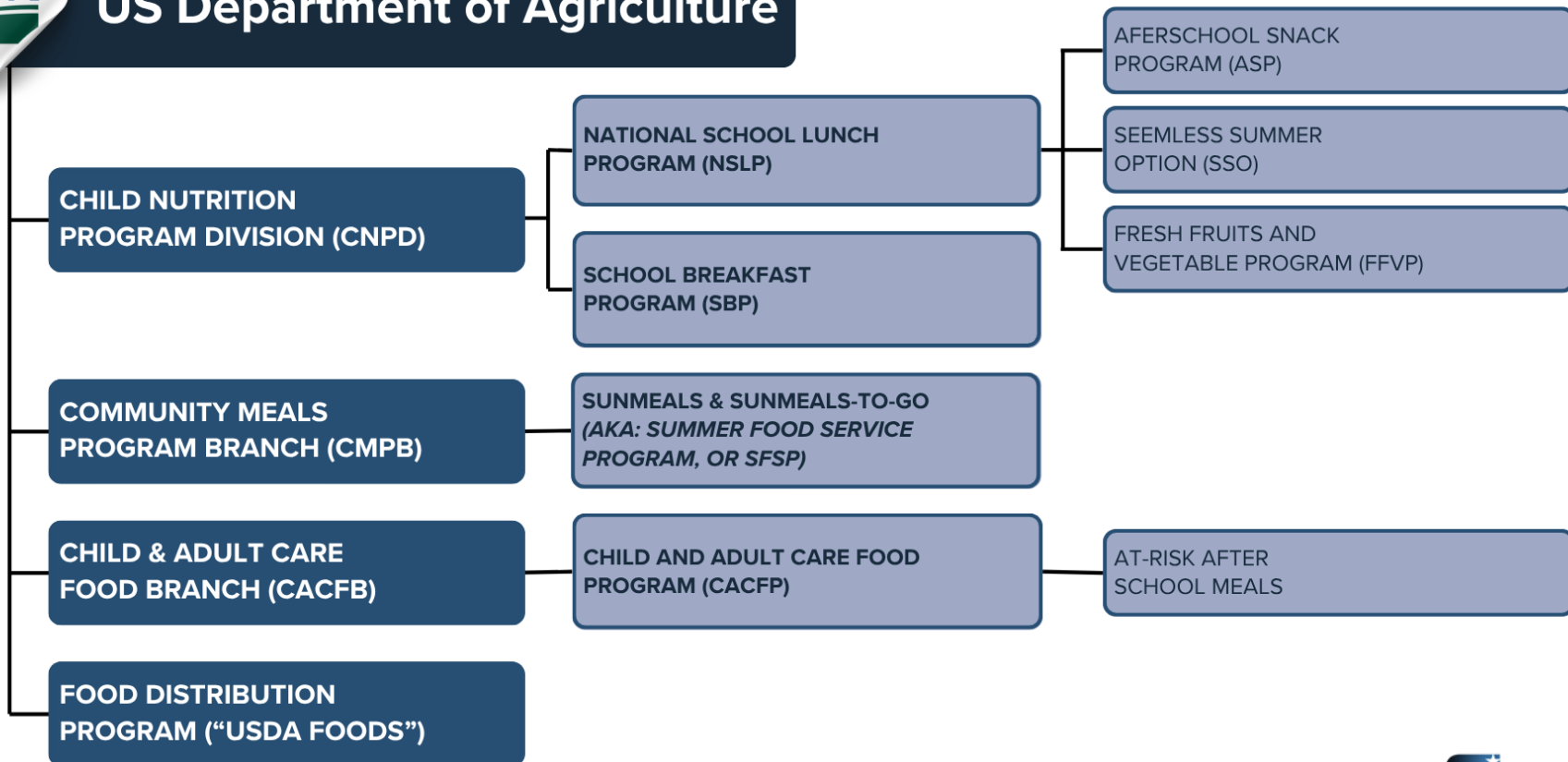




Goal: Ensure students have access to nutritious meals and snacks during the school year as well as during the summer months.



US Department of Agriculture





National School Lunch Program

- Offers meals to students during the school day (10:00-2:00)
- Nutrition standards & meal pattern requirements by grade groups
- One complete meal served to student/school day may be reimbursed
- Must be eaten on-site



Fruits, vegetables, whole grains, meat/meat alternate (protein), & milk must be offered every day





School Breakfast Program

- Ensures students have a healthy start to the school day
- Nutrition standards and meal pattern requirements by grade groups
- One complete meal served to student/school day may be reimbursed



DOE/CN Contact: Kaitlin.fayle@maine.gov



Afterschool Snack Program

- For NSLP sponsors only
- Offered after the school day ends to school-sponsored enrichment programs
- Reimbursable snack is 2 different food components
 - Ex. 1 oz cereal and 8 oz milk
 - Ex. 1 oz crackers and 1 oz cheese





Fresh Fruit & Vegetables Program

- Offer fresh fruits/vegetables outside of meal service
- Nutrition education
- K-8 schools may apply
 - Competitive grant, preference given to higher F/R schools

DOE/CN Contact:

Stephanie.Stambach@maine.gov





SunMeals & SunMeals-to-Go (“SFSP”)

- Offered in summer months when school is not in session
- Qualifying locations provide meals at no cost to children
- Follow the SFSP meal pattern

DOE/CN Contact: adriane.ackroyd@maine.gov





Seamless Summer Option

- Offered in summer months when school is not in session & unanticipated closures
- Qualifying locations provide meals at no cost to children
- Follow the NSLP meal pattern
- Less administration / Lower reimbursement rate than SFSP





Food Distribution Program (“USDA Foods”)

- Planned Assistance Level (PAL) - \$ Value
 - USDA Food
 - DOD Fresh
 - Net-Off Invoice (NOI)
- What is on your Annual Order?
- Participating in DOD Fresh? NOI?

DOE/CN Contact: terri.fitzgerald@maine.gov





CACFP At-Risk Afterschool (“At-Risk”)

- Qualifying afterschool programs may serve a snack or a supper meal “super snack” at no charge to children
- At least 50% Free/Reduced eligibility and an afterschool enrichment program

DOE/CN Contact: kobi.chase@maine.gov

Annual Agreement & Participation Packet

- Annual agreement between the SAU and the SA to participate in federal child nutrition programs
- Completed in CNPweb
- Approved by the State Agency prior to operation of meal service
- Sponsor agrees to:
 - Offer free and reduced-price meals to eligible students
 - Offer meals that meet meal pattern & other requirements
 - Operate a non-profit food service program
 - Not overtly identify or discriminate against any student

CNPweb

- Child Nutrition Software Program
 - All programs: SNP/FDP/CACFP/SFSP
 - Annual program agreement
 - Monthly Claim for reimbursement
 - Reports

Welcome to 



Child Nutrition
Maine Department of Education

Sign In

Enter User Id:


Enter Password:


[Forgot User ID?](#)
Contact Maine DOE at (207)624-6842 or (207)624-6843
[Forgot Password?](#)

Sponsor Responsibilities



Follow federal and state regulations



Process eligibility for free & reduced-price meals (when applicable)



Accurately counting reimbursable meals for reimbursement



Plan & serve meals that meet federal meal pattern requirements

Sponsor Responsibilities



Food safety requirements

Food safety plan
Licensed kitchen
Certified food protection manager



Civil Rights & nondiscrimination



Professional standards



Policies

Wellness
Procurement

Sponsor Responsibilities



Procurement Regulations



Manage a non-profit food service program

Maine's “School Meals for All”

	Federal Reimbursement Rate	State Reimbursement Rate	Total Reimbursement Rate
Free	\$4.87	\$0	\$4.87
Reduced	\$4.47	\$0.40	\$4.87
Paid	\$0.56	\$4.31	\$4.87

For Maine public, charter, 60/40 private, and special purpose private schools that are NSLP sponsors

*Example uses SY2027 rates for schools that receive 9-cent PBR and >60% F/R price lunches (“severe need”)

Reimbursement for Student Meals

- Reimbursement = # of meals served (F/R/P) X reimbursement rate (F/R/P)
- No reimbursement for adult meals
- No reimbursement for second student meals
- No reimbursement for incomplete meals
- Meals must be tracked properly (accountability)
- Sponsor has up to 60 days to file a claim for reimbursement



Food Based Menu Planning & Reimbursable Meals

5 Food Components

1. Fruits
2. Vegetables
3. Grains
4. Meat/Meat Alternate
5. Milk



Reimbursable Meal – a single meal unit that offers all of the USDA daily required meal pattern components for the grade group being served, in the minimum required amounts.

Maine DOE CN Communication

- “Thursday Update”
- Monthly CN Updates Webinars
- School Nutrition Programs Annual Training

[Child Nutrition Home](#)
[Programs](#)
[CNPIWeb/NEO](#)
[Student Eligibility & Applications](#)
[Financial](#)
[Legal References](#)
[Webinars and Training](#)
[Contact Us](#)

Child Nutrition Thursday Update



[February 5, 2026](#) - USDA Foods Monthly Order, USDA Foods Annual Order, Community Eligibility Provision & Special Provision II, Serving Meals to Students Off-site, Buy American, Financial Open Office Hours, Paula's Going Out on Medical Leave - Who you going to call?, SUN Meals (SFSP) Training, Child Nutrition Training, Webinars, Production Records and Cycle Menus Workshop, ServeSafe Exam - Last one of the School Year, Local Foods Training - Cooking with Early Maine Harvest, Shout Out!!

[January 29, 2026](#) - Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), PAL Entitlement, USDA Foods Monthly Order, Black Bean Burgers, USDA Foods & Menu Planning, Culinary Classroom Resources, Financial Open Office Hours, Child Nutrition Training, Webinars, Production Records and Cycle Menus Workshop, ServSafe Exam - Last one of the School Year, National School Lunch Program Information Portal

[January 22, 2026](#) - List Serve has changed, PAL Entitlement, USDA Foods Annual Order, Black Bean Burgers, FFVP Fund Usage, USDA Memo, Financial Open Office Hours, Child Nutrition Training, Webinars, Production Records and Cycle Menus Workshop,



Questions?

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