

MAINE CHILD NUTRITION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES IN THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

In accordance with The United States Department of Agriculture Summer Food Service Program regulations 7 CFR Part 225.11, Maine Department of Education Child Nutrition will abide by the following to address serious deficiencies. Except as specified below, the State Agency will not enter into a Summer Food Service Program agreement with any applicant sponsor who has been identified as seriously deficient in its operation of any Federal child nutrition program. In addition, Child Nutrition will terminate the Program agreement with any sponsor which it determines to be seriously deficient. Sponsors will be afforded reasonable opportunity to correct problems prior to Program termination. Sponsors will also be allowed to submit an application and be considered for acceptance into the Summer Food Service Program if they have a history of disapproval or termination in the past, as long as they have taken the appropriate corrective action to prevent recurrence of deficiencies. The following is a list of serious deficiencies:

- 1) Noncompliance with the applicable bid procedures and contract requirements of Federal child nutrition program regulations;
- 2) The submission of false information to the State agency;
- 3) Failure to return to the State agency any start-up or advance payments which exceeded the amount earned for serving meals in accordance with this part, or failure to submit all claims for reimbursement in any prior year, provided that failure to return any advance payments for months for which claims for reimbursement are under dispute from any prior year shall not be grounds for disapproval in accordance with this paragraph; and
- 4) Program violations at a significant proportion of the sponsor's sites. Such violations include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Noncompliance with the meal service time restrictions set forth at §225.16(c);
 - b. Failure to maintain adequate records;
 - c. Failure to adjust meal orders to conform to variations in the number of participating children;
 - d. The simultaneous service of more than one meal to any child;
 - e. The claiming of Program payments for meals not served to participating children;
 - f. Service of a significant number of meals which did not include required quantities of all meal components;
 - g. Excessive instances of off-site meal consumption;
 - h. Continued use of food service management companies that are in violation of health codes.