

Afterschool Meal Options: National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) Versus Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program

School Food Authorities (SFA): Which program should my school(s) serve snacks under?

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Key questions to consider:

1. Is my afterschool program “area eligible,” meaning is it located at a school or in the attendance area of a school where at least 50 percent of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced price meals? If not, the site is unable to participate in the CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program and should consider the NSLP ASP.

**\*Note:** If you are not in an eligible location to participate in CACFP At-Risk but would like to, please contact the Community Nutrition Team to discuss alternative options such as the [Outside of School Hours Care Center programs](#).

2. Do I want to expand the snack program to operate on weekends and/or school vacations (e.g., spring break)? CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program should be considered.
3. Do I want to serve more than one snack, such as supper? CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program should be considered, as this program allows for up to one meal and one snack per child per day. The ASP serves one snack per child per day.
4. What about administrative burden – which requires less paperwork? The NSLP ASP is encouraged for schools who already participate on the NSLP. Joining the CACFP requires a separate contract and claim. However, there are streamlining opportunities in the CACFP for SFAs who participate in other Child Nutrition Programs, such as NSLP or SFSP.

Resources:

[WI Community Nutrition Team \(CNT\): At-Risk Afterschool Meals Component](#)

[United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals Guide](#)

[WI CNT: Join the CACFP Webpage](#) to complete the CACFP New Agency Information form

[Wisconsin Public School Eligibility Data Report for At-Risk Afterschool Programs](#)

[WI School Nutrition Team \(SNT\): Afterschool Snack Program \(ASP\)](#)

[WI SNT: NSLP Afterschool Snack Program in a Nutshell](#)

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Program Details	NSLP Afterschool Snack Program	CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program
Definition	The NSLP offers reimbursement to schools so that students can receive snacks after the end of the school day.	The CACFP offers reimbursement to eligible schools and agencies that serve meals and snacks to participants in low-income areas.
	Both programs intend to serve students a reimbursable snack, filling the afternoon hunger gap during adult-supervised afterschool activities that are safe, fun, and filled with learning opportunities. Each option requires an organized, structured, and supervised environment where educational or enrichment activities must be provided.	
Program Eligibility	<p>Must be administered by School Food Authority (SFA) that serves lunches through the NSLP during the school day. Programs must provide adult-supervised educational or enrichment activities that are open to all children (i.e., homework assistance, arts and crafts, life skills, fitness activities, etc.).</p> <p>Sanctioned sports do not qualify on their own to participate in the ASP. In order for sanctioned sports to participate, there must be another adult-supervised afterschool enrichment activity, that is inclusive to all students, occurring at the same time the sports team is practicing or has a game.</p>	<p>Must be administered by schools or public institutions, and tax-exempt non-profit organizations. Programs must provide educational or enrichment activities that are open to all children (i.e., homework assistance, arts and crafts, life skills, fitness activities, etc.).</p> <p>Sanctioned sports do not qualify on their own to participate in the At-Risk. In order for sanctioned sports to participate, there must be another adult-supervised afterschool enrichment activity, that is inclusive to all students, occurring at the same time the sports team is practicing or has a game.</p>
Site Eligibility	All schools that administer the NSLP are eligible to participate in the Afterschool Snack Program.	Site(s) must be located in an attendance area of a public school building with a School Eligibility percentage of 50 percent or more, as published within the most

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	<p>Once a site qualifies for area eligible snack, it qualifies for five years.</p> <p>If a school does not qualify for Area Eligible ASP, the school may qualify based on being in the attendance area of another school that does qualify for Area Eligible ASP.</p>	<p>current Wisconsin Public School Eligibility Data Report or based on the most recent Free/Reduced-priced or Community Eligibility data.</p> <p>Once a site qualifies, it qualifies for five years.</p>
<p>Days and Time of Operation</p>	<p>Snack must be served after the school day has ended. Snacks may be served in summer if summer school is administered, but must be served after the summer school day has ended.</p>	<p>Snack and/or supper must be served after the school day has ended.</p> <p>Any one meal (breakfast, lunch, or supper) and/or one snack may be served on weekends, holidays, and school vacations (e.g. spring break)</p> <p>Programs do not operate during the summer months unless the school offers a year-round program.</p>
<p>Additional requirements for program participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily attendance of the afterschool enrichment program or activity is required. This is used as an edit check to ensure overclaiming is not occurring.</li> <li>• Daily point of service snack count records</li> <li>• Dated menus for each snack served</li> <li>• Production records for snack which document the quantity of food produced/leftover and total number of snacks prepared</li> <li>• Onsite monitoring required twice per school year (once during the first four</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily attendance of the afterschool enrichment program or activity is required. If a site does not maintain an attendance roster, meal counts must be taken by name. Therefore, the meal counts recorded by name are the attendance records.</li> <li>• Daily point of service snack/meal count records</li> <li>• Dated menus for each snack and meal served.</li> <li>• Production records for snack and meal which document the quantity of food</li> </ul>

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	<p>weeks of the program plus one additional during the program year).</p>	<p>produced/leftover and total number of snacks and meals prepared</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For programs with one site, no onsite monitoring required.</li> <li>• For program with more than one site, number of reviews are dependent on number of operating months. For a regular school year, three monitoring visits are required.</li> </ul>
<p>Reimbursement Rates</p>	<p>There are two types of reimbursement: Area Eligible ASP and Non-area Eligible ASP.</p> <p>Area Eligible ASP: 50% or more free and reduced eligible students enrolled at the school (based off the prior October lunch claim); each student receives a free reimbursable snack and each reimbursable snack is claimed at the free rate.</p> <p>Non-area Eligible ASP: less than 50% free and reduced eligible students enrolled at the school (based off the prior October lunch claim); each snack is claimed at the student’s eligibility status such as free, reduced, or paid. A reduced-eligible student must pay \$0.15 for a snack. A paid student must pay the set paid snack price. Overt-identification of student eligibility status is unallowable.</p>	<p>All At-Risk meals and snacks are offered at no cost to children and reimbursed at the free rate.</p>

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Claimable Snacks and/or Meals	One reimbursable snack per child per day the ASP is operated may be served and claimed for reimbursement	Up to one snack and one meal may be served and claimed for reimbursement per child per day. If serving a meal on school days, the meal must be a supper. Along with serving a supper after school, At-Risk programs can serve up to one meal (breakfast, lunch, or supper) and one snack per day on weekends, holidays, and during school vacations
Eligible Participants	Children who participate in an approved afterschool program and who are age 18 or under at the start of the school year. Children who turn 19 during the school year may also participate.	Children who participate in an approved afterschool program and who are age 18 or under at the start of the school year. Children who turn 19 during the school year may also participate.
Meal pattern	NSLP Meal Pattern  Offer Versus Serve (OVS) does not apply for snack.	CACFP Meal Pattern <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SFAs participating in the CACFP may choose to follow the NSLP and School Breakfast Program (SBP) meal patterns or the CACFP meal pattern.</li> </ul> Offer Versus Serve (OVS) may be applied at the meal (breakfast, lunch, or supper) but does not apply for snack.