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Appendix E6 State Webinar

# Summer Meals Participant Characteristics Study State Webcast <date>



# Study Overview—Optimal Solutions Group

## **Optimal Solutions Group (Optimal)**

- Policy research firm located in College Park, MD
- Specialize in policy research focused on health, education, workforce development, social policy, and housing and economic development
- Contracted by USDA/FNS to conduct evaluation of the Summer Meals Programs' participant characteristics

# Study Overview—Research Goals

## Research Goals

- Ascertain how the summer meals programs operate at the state, sponsor, and site levels.
- Describe participant characteristics and examine the differences and factors that affect participation by sponsors and children across states.

## State Survey

- Understand the challenges to finding sponsors, administering training, facilitating outreach efforts, etc.
- Census of ALL states.
- Information will help FNS better serve state agencies in administering summer meals programs.

# Study Overview—Methodology

## **Surveys**

- State-level
- Sponsor-level
- Site -level

## **Interviews**

- Parents/caregivers of summer meals participants
- Parents/caregivers of summer meals-eligible non-participants

# State Participation—Sponsor List & Administrative Data

## 2015 Sponsor List

- Formal request via email
- Items needed include:
  - Sponsor Name
  - Sponsor Address
  - Sponsor Phone Number
  - Dates of Operation
  - Identify new or returning sponsor
  - Number of Sites Operated
  - Sponsor Type (school, gov't, non-profit, NYSP, camp)
  - Meals served (breakfast, lunch, snacks)
  - Meal counts by sponsor
- Time sensitive **<date needed by>**
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Site list request from sponsors

# State Participation—Web Survey

## Web Survey

- Email invitation with link to survey
- User-friendly interface
- Responses will—
  - be kept confidential
  - be combined with other states
  - not be reported individually
- Can save progress and complete later
- Telephone follow-ups

# State Participation—Web Survey

## Summer Food Service Program Participant Characteristics Study State Administrator Survey

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

#### 1. What is your agency? (Check one)

- State education agency/department
- State health agency/department
- State human services agency/department
- State agriculture agency/department
- DONT KNOW
- REFUSED
- Other (please specify)

#### 2. Which of the following major tasks does your agency perform in administering the Summer Meals Programs? (Check all that apply)

- Processing applications
- Conducting administrative reviews and monitoring of sponsors and sites
- Conducting annual training activities for sponsors and site personnel
- Providing technical assistance for sponsors and site personnel
- Managing vendors
- Reviewing and processing meal-count claims
- Conducting health, food safety, and sanitation inspections
- Conducting outreach efforts to attract new sponsors
- Conducting outreach efforts to attract new sites
- Conducting outreach efforts to increase the number of children participating
- DONT KNOW
- REFUSED
- Others (please specify)

# QUESTIONS

