

C2. Regional Office Email Notification to States

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REGIONAL OFFICE EMAIL NOTIFICATION TO STATES

Sent to: [Child Nutrition (CN) Directors from Sampled States]

Subject: USDA's Study of Nutrition and Activity in Child Care Settings II (SNACS-II)

Dear [State Child Nutrition (CN) Director],

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is sponsoring the second Study of Nutrition and Activity in Child Care Settings (SNACS-II) in the 2022-2023 program year. This important study will look at nutrition and wellness policies and activities in child care centers, family child care homes and before and after school programs across the country. It will help providers, sponsors and USDA understand how the CACFP operates so that it can better help children learn and grow. SNACS-II will provide an updated picture of the CACFP and examine how key outcomes have changed since updated meal pattern requirements went into effect to encourage healthier eating. Mathematica and its partner, Westat, are conducting SNACS-II for USDA.

Our region's support for SNACS-I during the 2016-2017 program year was important to its success and we hope that you can provide the same assistance and support for SNACS-II. Your state is among 25 across the country that have been sampled for this study, which means that CACFP sponsors and providers within your state will be selected for participation. In the coming weeks, you will be contacted by a representative from Mathematica who will provide you with additional information about the study and directly enlist your support. To help select the study sample, they will ask you to provide a list of all CACFP providers in your State, along with other information. I have attached a copy of the study FAQs as well as an endorsement letter from the USDA.

Information gathered for SNACS-II is for research purposes only and will be kept private to the full extent allowed by law. Responses will be grouped together. No staff, parents or children will be identified by name. Being part of the study will not affect CACFP benefits for programs or families.

If you have questions about the study, you can contact the project team toll-free at [study phone], email [study email], or visit [URL]. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this important study!

Sincerely,

[FNS Regional Office Liaison]
[Position]

Attachments: [Study FAQs, USDA Endorsement Letter]

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is collecting this information to understand the nutritional quality of CACFP meals and snacks, the cost to produce them, and dietary intakes and activity levels of CACFP participants. This is a voluntary collection and FNS will use the information to examine CACFP operations. The collection does not request personally identifiable information under the Privacy Act of 1974. Responses will be kept private to the extent provided by law and FNS regulations. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0584-xxxx. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 0.0334 hours (2 minutes) per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Policy Support, 1320 Braddock Place, 5th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22314. ATTN: PRA (0584-xxxx). Do not return the completed form to this address.