



# Staying on Track: Summer Edition - April 2025

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

The following are the answers to the questions asked in HNS' [Staying on Track: Summer Edition webinar](#). Please note that operators are responsible for remaining up-to-date on program guidance/regulations. The answers provided reflect the information available at the time of the live webinar and may be subject to change.

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#### **How much monthly reimbursement is federal money and state money? How much of each will be cut for next school year? Will any be cut for this current year? Requesting for budget guidance for next year.**

Child Nutrition Program reimbursement is paid fully with Federal funds. Reimbursement rates for the current year are available now and have been linked below for convenience. The United States Department of Agriculture typically releases rates for the following school year in July.

- [Reimbursement Rates](#)

#### **If a School Food Authority (SFA) decides to operate the Seamless Summer Option, will the SFA receive an Administrative Review?**

Seamless Summer Option (SSO) reviews will be conducted as part of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Administrative Review. If the SFA received an NSLP review, SSO will be reviewed as well.

#### **Can rural sites offer both congregate and non-congregate meal service options? Can these options be served for the same meal on the same day? What resources are available to help combine these operations?**

Eligible sites offering both congregate and non-congregate meal service options may serve different meals on the same day. For example, a child could participate in the congregate breakfast and take-home lunch, supper, or snack. Similarly, a child could participate in congregate lunch and take-home breakfast or snack. For more information, please view the following resources:

- [Operating Both Congregate and Non-Congregate at the Same Site](#)
- [USDA's Rural Non-Congregate Meal Service Examples](#)
- [Six Reasons to Offer Rural Non-Congregate Summer Meals](#)
- [Quick Guide: Offering a Non-Congregate Summer Meal Service](#)

#### **Is there an ETA on when the Sun Bucks application will be available for families to complete online? Will it be available in multiple languages?**

The SUN Bucks household application is planned for release this month, April 2025. HNS will notify the field of the link location once available for household use. Its availability will be announced by ADE HNS and posted to the [SUN Bucks webpage](#) once available. The application will be made available in English and Spanish. Free language assistance, auxiliary aids, and/or accommodations are available upon request. Please contact 602-542-8700 or submit a request through [HelpDesk](#).

#### **What is the deadline for families to complete the SUN Bucks Household Application? July 31, 2025 - similar to last year?**

The deadline for households to submit a SUN Bucks Household Application is August 5, 2025. This is the end of the "covered summer period" for SUN Bucks and the last day to apply. To help households determine the need to submit an application, SFAs are encouraged to refer parents to the SUN Bucks website where an eligibility screener will be available, as well as the [Summer EBT Eligibility Flow Chart](#).

#### **Are students who are extended household members for Medicaid Free included for the data submission for April 15?**

Yes.



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##### **Do CEP schools need to have SUN Bucks applications available for parents to fill out?**

All SFAs operating the NSLP/SBP must report student data to the CNP Summer EBT - SUN Bucks portal. For operators operating a Special Provision Option, like the CEP, will report match results from the CNP Direct Certification System. Students who are eligible but were not directly certified will need to complete the SUN Bucks Household Application in order to receive benefits. For more information, please review the following resources:

- What You Need to Know About Data and Access to SUN Bucks Benefits ([Recording](#)) ([Slides](#)) ([Q&A](#))
- [How to Report Students for Summer-EBT in the CNP Summer EBT - SUN Bucks Portal](#)
- <https://www.azed.gov/SUNBucks>

##### **What if a Sponsor cannot make contact with an apartment complex site? Can the Sponsor deliver meals even if they do not have non associated agreement form?**

No. A Non-Associated Site Agreement is required to offer a meal service at a non-associated site.