WHAT IS THE CHILD & ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

The Child & Adult Care Food Program is administered by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) with funding from the Food & Nutrition Service (FNS), US Department of Agriculture (USDA), which provides a reimbursement for nutritious meals & snacks served in family child care homes. The CACFP plays an important role in the development of healthy eating habits among children birth through 12 years of age enrolled in the program.

WHO QUALIFIES?

We serve licensed family child care homes located throughout Washington.

Some of the counties we are currently serving are:

- YAKIMA
- KITITITAS
- BENTON
- FRANKLIN
- GRANT
- ADAMS
- KLIKKITAT
- SKAMANIA
- WALLAWALLA
- CLARK
- COWLITZ
- COLUMBIA
- CHELAN
- DOUGLAS
- SPOKANE

REQUIREMENTS

What you must do to receive reimbursement each month:

- Maintain your family child care license.
- Keep daily records of meals served and the children in care.
- Serve meals according to USDA nutrition guidelines.
- Participate in (1) 2 hour Nutrition training each year.
- Have one of our qualified Program Specialists visit you in your home every 4 months, (three times a year).

In exchange for following the guidelines, you will receive a cash reimbursement for 2 meals and 1 snack or 2 snacks and 1 meal per day, per child for each month.

Rates payable for each meal are based on a TIER SYSTEM placed by the federal government effective July 1, 1998.

TIER I RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meal</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BREAKFAST</td>
<td>1.31 Per day, per child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUNCH/DINNER</td>
<td>2.46 Per day, per child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNACKS</td>
<td>.73 Per day, per child</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Tier I rates are determined by the following guidelines:

1. Provider is located in an area served by any school in which at least 50 percent of the total students enrolled are certified eligible to receive free or reduced priced meals.

2. Provider whose household income meets eligibility guidelines and has been verified.

3. Provider is located in an area based on census data in which at least 50 percent of the children residing in the area are members of households whose income meet the income eligibility guidelines. The income eligibility guidelines are below 185% of the federal income poverty guideline.

TIER II RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meal</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BREAKFAST</td>
<td>.48 Per day, per child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUNCH/DINNER</td>
<td>1.48 Per day, per child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNACKS</td>
<td>.20 Per day, per child</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A tier II family child care home is one that does not meet the criterion set forth for a Tier I home.

The provider may choose to become a mixed Tier II home by asking the parents of the children in care to submit an income eligibility form to the office. If the household income meets the guidelines, the provider will be paid the Tier I rates for those children.
In addition to receiving cash reimbursements for serving nutritious meals and snacks, we offer the following benefits:

- Our program uses the Minute Menu system, which makes your paperwork easier and more efficient.
- Minute Menu Kids web based program. A web based program that allows you to keep all of your monthly records on your computer and then submit your monthly claim. You make the choice with which system is best for you.
- We have been in operation since 1984. In-home visits by friendly experienced staff.
- Quarterly newsletters with nutrition news, recipes, food program updates and fun activities.
- Information and fun activity packets, a new one at every visit. We find new ideas to give you at each in-home visit. Fun for you and the children.
- Trainings are held once a year. We offer nutrition information, free materials, new ideas and Stars approved.
- Reimbursements are paid on the last working day of each month. Direct deposit is available and payment is guaranteed on time.
- Our program will help you to develop healthy eating habits for young children.

We currently serve over 600 providers throughout Central Washington. We encourage you to call and ask for references.

Our sponsoring agency, Catholic Charities, is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the education, health and care of children.

Catholic Charities sponsors the Child Nutrition Program because we believe it benefits not only the children in childcare, but their parents and the providers as well.

The Child Care Nutrition Program sponsored by Catholic Charities is operated in accordance with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, which prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information for employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the department.

Catholic Charities also sponsors Child Care Aware Programs throughout Central Washington. The service is free to parents and providers. The database has Child Care Providers information that is given to parents for the purpose of finding child care. Child Care Aware also offers provider support, Early Achievers Orientations and trainings for your licensing needs. For more information, please call 509-965-7109.