

What is the Child and Adult Care Food Program?

The Child and Adult Care Food Program is a federal nutrition program that provides reimbursement for nutritious meals and snacks served to children enrolled in child care programs. In Colorado, CACFP is administered by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). Reimbursement can be claimed for two meals and one snack or one meal and two snacks per child per day.

Who Can Participate? Providers who are licensed and must:

1. Serve meals that qualify for reimbursement
2. Complete claim forms daily that track the number of children and meals served
3. Submit the monthly claim form to sponsor

Child care providers are supported by one of the approved sponsors in Colorado. In addition to program monitoring, sponsors educate and train providers on the program and its requirements, provide the necessary materials for successful program participation, and offer free training at least once a year.

Food Program Contributes to Alleviation of Child Food Insecurity and Prevention of Childhood Obesity

For many children, the meals and snacks served within the child care setting are their best source of nutrition and a great opportunity for them to learn healthy eating habits. Nutritious meals aid children's cognitive and physical development and contribute to school readiness.



Wildwood Child and Adult Care Food Program

Comprehensive Services to Child Care Professionals – Specializing in Nutrition

Wildwood is currently working on a grant funded by The Colorado Health Foundation called “Child Care Food Access Solutions.”

What does this mean?

Providers on Wildwood CACFP are eligible to be a part of an innovative solution to enable child care providers to access affordable, conveniently accessible healthy foods for their child care business.

Be a part of the food program and be a part of the child care food access solution!

Contact Kati@Wildwoodcacfp.org to sign up.

OPEN up this Brochure for more details!

Wildwood Child and Adult Care Food Program

12200 E. Briarwood Avenue #175
Centennial, CO 80112
Phone: 303-730-0460
Fax: 800-223-0557

www.wildwoodonline.org

Wildwood CACFP Means You Will Receive:

- Cash reimbursement for meals served to enrolled children in your child care business
- Direct Deposit of reimbursement check
- Full access to Minute Menu Kids Pro - online claiming
- Child care food program and nutrition information
- Child care program sign-on notebook
- Annual record keeping guide: "Forms, Facts & Figures"
- Nutrition educational materials and activities at home visits throughout the year
- Free nutrition workshops
- At-home support services
- Pre-addressed envelopes
- Tax information
- Access to local child care resources
- Opportunity for free correspondence

Child Care Food Access Solutions

We are seeking solutions to help child care providers access food at a more affordable cost, a more convenient location and that would be creditable for food program reimbursement.

Why Food Access for Child Care?

Food Access Scan done in Colorado to see if child care providers had trouble accessing healthy foods in a convenient location and affordable cost.

Based on the results of this scan, Colorado Health Foundation funded Wildwood CACFP with a grant to alleviate the food access issues for child care providers in Colorado.

Some Examples of Food Access Challenges

- Tight budgets with limited availability to affordable quality foods – especially in rural areas
- Some drive considerable distances to avoid high prices and go to a club store, one provider surveyed drove round trip of 200 miles!
- Local grocers prices are much higher in more rural areas.
- Many times local grocers do not have the quantity of food the providers is seeking.
- Storage space make it hard to “stock up” at club stores
- Many providers use their weekend family time to make the trips to secure food for their child care businesses

What Are We Looking Into?

- Exploring partnerships with school districts, to purchase and pick up food from your local school
- Exploring food purchasing cooperative options
- Exploring Farm to Preschool/Child Care and other local sourcing options

What's Your Part?

Tell us what you need. Share what you would like to see. Tell us what you would like to participate in.

Then get affordable, easily accessible foods for your child care.

Help us solve the food access problem for child care providers in your area!

Wildwood CACFP is the Perfect Partner for Nutrition in Your Child Care

You know that nutrition is important in your program but it seems impossible to implement healthy eating with the kids? Wildwood can give you tools and resources to do this, not to mention a visit for technical assistance at your home 3 times a year. This is free!

All you have to do is fill out menus and serve creditable meals for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which again, Wildwood walks your through every step of the way.

Do You Like Money? Then You Must Join the Food Program.

Tom Copeland says “You never lose money when you are on the Food Program”

Question you might ask: “Is it really worth doing all that paperwork for a 20-cent snack? (current Tier II rate)”

Answer: “YES! Let’s look at an example. If you claim a 20-cent snack for the entire year, your total reimbursement would be \$52 (\$20 a day x 5 days a week x 52 weeks). If you care for four children, the yearly total would be \$208. If it takes you five minutes a day to record these snacks, that will amount to 21.7 hours a year (5 minutes a day x 5 days per week x 52 weeks). This means that you will earn \$9.58 per hour (\$208 divided by 21.7 hours) for doing the paperwork. That’s probably more money per hour than you are earning caring for children!” ~Tom Copeland, J.D. and trusted Family Child Care Business trainer, author and advocate.