

FOOD PROGRAM Memo



MAY 2022

The April claim payment will be deposited or checks sent by Friday, May 27, 2022.

CHANGES TO MEMO FREQUENCY

4-C CACFP is making some changes to the frequency in which the Memos will be sent out. Instead of monthly memos, we will be switching to quarterly memos in January, April, July, and September of each year. These are timed to cover important annual events such as the Record Keeping Assignment, the Annual Child Re-Enrollment, Tiering, etc. In addition to these 4 set times a year we will also send out memos "on demand" as other new/important information pops up.

TIERING

Due to a Nationwide Waiver of Area Eligibility, currently all providers are eligible for Tier 1 reimbursement rates. We have been informed from the DPI that **this waiver expires on June 30, 2022. Which means that tiering requirements will resume July 1, 2022.**

For all providers who do not qualify for Tier 1 based on their census area or school district (as well as any provider who wants to claim their own children), income forms will again need to be filled out and submitted. 4-C CACFP will be sending this information out soon.

We have heard from numerous people regarding their disappointment and frustration about this waiver ending, and also asking what they can do. Below is the advice we have received:

- Providers can reach out to their legislator
- [FRAC's Action Center](#) webpage has resources on how to contact and engage with members. It also lists the bills they support with talking points.
- The National CACFP Sponsors Association has a [Policy and Partnership](#) section on their webpage.

INFANT FORMULA

The infant formula recall and shortage are in the news a lot these days - below are two resources with further information:

- **Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics / Infant Formula Safety Resources**
<https://www.eatright.org/homefoodsafety/safety-tips/food/infant-formula-safety-resources>
- **USDA Food and Nutrition Service / Keeping Infants Safe in Midst of Formula Shortages** <https://www.fns.usda.gov/blog/keeping-infants-safe>

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PRODUCT UPDATE - WOWBUTTER

4-C CACFP received the following clarification from the DPI regarding how the soynut butter product, WowButter, credits to the CACFP meal pattern. This was in response to information provided by the National CACFP Sponsors Association Creditable Foods Directory, that incorrectly states WowButter may credit as a meat/meat alternate or a vegetable. This product **does not credit** as a vegetable and may only credit toward the meat/meat alternate component of the CACFP meal pattern.

The USDA has issued the following crediting information for WowButter: "Nut and seed butters, to include soy nut butter, only credit toward the meats/meat alternates component in Child Nutrition Programs and do not credit as a vegetable. This product may credit based on the Soy Nut Butter content per serving (FBG yield: 2 tablespoons nut/seed butter provides 1 oz meat alternate)."

WowButter credits as a meat/meat alternate based on the Product Formulation Statement (PFS) acquired by the product manufacturer. Typically, products that are described or identified as "spreads" are not creditable to the CACFP meal pattern due to their lack of standard identity in terms of their ingredients and product formulation. However, WowButter is creditable as a meat/meat alternate based on the manufacturer's PFS that states the crediting information including the portion of creditable meat/meat alternate per ounce of the product.

COST SAVING TIPS

Here are some cost saving tips submitted from providers:

Mary F. says "When cooking an item I try to do two so that one can go into the freezer. I then put that item on the menu for the following week. It helps to save time and makes the following week of prepping food go that much faster. I do this especially when I know I will have a very hectic week and not a lot of time to do food prep."



Anonymous Provider says "Not only do I try to shop at stores and buy in bulk when the prices are lower but I also try and cook several of the dishes in advance and then freeze. For example: I will make several loaves of pumpkin or banana bread. I will freeze to use at a later time. I also do this with other things so all I have to do is grab from the freezer. "

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FOOD PROGRAM STAFF

Health and Safety Services Manager

Brianne Heidke
brianne.heidke@4-C.org
608-216-7014

Administrative Assistant

Bette Miller
bette.miller@4-C.org
608-216-7028

Nutrition Specialists

Jan Howe
jan.howe@4-C.org
608-219-6715

Robin Hunter
robin.hunter@4-C.org
608-219-6716

Wanda Rodriguez
wanda.rodriguez@4-C.org
608-712-1053

Mary Schott
mary.schott@4-C.org
608-219-6714