




STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Sponsors of the School Child Nutrition Programs Including the Special Milk Program

**FROM:** John D. Frassinelli, Chief   
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

**DATE:** January 18, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Operational Memorandum No. 03-19  
Eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Free School Meals and Free Milk

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) recently provided guidance to school food authorities (SFAs) regarding free or reduced-price school meal eligibility for furloughed federal employees. That correspondence is attached for your reference.

Connecticut has another route to free school meals for families impacted by the federal shutdown. Eligibility for free school meals may be obtained through participation in SNAP, administered by the State Department of Social Services (DSS). Students in families receiving SNAP or living in households with a SNAP recipient can be directly certified for free school meals. The CSDE matches SNAP data with students attending Connecticut schools through our Direct Certification process, and then notifies schools of each student's subsequent eligibility for free school meals.

Therefore, the CSDE encourages SFAs to share information about SNAP with families, especially furloughed employees and others whose income has been impacted by the federal shutdown. Additional information that can be shared with families is available in the CSDE's handout, [Addendum C: Information on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#). A Spanish version of this handout, [Anexo C: Información Sobre el Programa Asistencial de Nutrición Suplementaria \(SNAP\)](#), is also available.

Questions may be directed to your CSDE school nutrition consultant.

Consultants for School Nutrition Programs	
County	Consultant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fairfield County (Includes Region 9)</li> <li>• Litchfield County (Includes Regions 1, 6, 7, 12, and 14)</li> </ul>	Fionnuala Brown <a href="mailto:fionnuala.brown@ct.gov">fionnuala.brown@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2129
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hartford County (Includes Region 10)</li> <li>• Middlesex County (Includes Regions 4, 13, and 17)</li> </ul>	Teri Dandeneau <a href="mailto:teri.dandeneau@ct.gov">teri.dandeneau@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2079
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Haven County (Includes Regions 5, 15, and 16)</li> </ul>	Jackie Schipke <a href="mailto:jackie.schipke@ct.gov">jackie.schipke@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2123
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New London County</li> <li>• Tolland County (Includes Regions 8 and 19)</li> <li>• Windham County (Includes Region 11)</li> </ul>	Susan Alston <a href="mailto:susan.alston@ct.gov">susan.alston@ct.gov</a> 860-807-2081

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Attachment

Important: This is a numbered Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) operational memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain in a binder for future reference. All CSDE operational memoranda are posted on the CSDE's [Operational Memoranda for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.