

NC Restaurants Feeding NC Kids

What is the NC Restaurants Feeding NC Kids initiative?

In these unprecedented times, we want to work as a community to ensure children receive nourishing meals. The NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) is leading the *NC Restaurants Feeding Kids* initiative, in partnership with the UNC-Chapel Hill Gillings School of Public Health and No Kid Hungry North Carolina, to connect restaurants and foodservice operations with schools and community organizations to ensure no child goes hungry while school is out.

Why is the NC Restaurants Feeding NC Kids initiative needed?

Nearly 900,000 children in North Carolina rely on receiving breakfast, lunch and snacks from school five days a week. During this emergency closure, approved schools and community partners are serving kids and teens in need across the state and receiving reimbursement through the Summer Food Service and Seamless Summer Option Programs also known as the Summer Nutrition Programs (SNP). Some schools and community partners operating through SNP may experience difficulties with staffing, food, supplies and meal transportation. Restaurants, caterers and other food service operations may have the resources to help. SNP operators are allowed to contract with restaurants, caterers and other food service operations to provide food for the kids in their community.

As a restaurant or food service operation, how can I get involved?

If your restaurant, catering company or foodservice operation is interested in helping to feed kids during COVID-19 school closures, please take the next steps listed below. We look forward to receiving your proposals and menus.

- View the recorded *NC Restaurants Feeding Kids* webinar to learn more, <https://bit.ly/39W0ak1>.
- Read the *Restaurant and Nutrition Hub Partnership - For Emergency Meals to Children During School Closures from COVID-19: What Restaurants and Catering Companies Need to Know* linked in the online proposal form, <https://bit.ly/2UEpNBy>.
- Complete the online proposal form to provide information about your restaurant or foodservice operation - where you could serve, how many meals you could prepare, type of meal (i.e., breakfast, lunch/supper), days of the week you could provide meals, type of meal service you can provide, and estimated unit price per meal.
- Create sample menus for meals you can provide using the Summer Food Service Program Weekly Menu Planning Tools for breakfast and/or lunch. Include servings of Meat/Meat Alternate, Grains, Vegetables, Fruit and Milk. (Instructions are provided on page 2 of the Menu Planning Tool.) Upload the menus to the folder linked in the online proposal form.
- Submit the completed proposal form and sample menu.

After I submit the proposal and sample menus, what happens next?

If your local School Nutrition Program or Community Sponsor needs assistance with emergency feeding, they will reach out to nearby food service operations that have submitted proposals and have the capacity to fulfill the need. Please wait to hear from your local School Nutrition Program or Community Sponsor before reaching out to them.

Questions?

If you have questions or need further information regarding the *NC Restaurants Feeding Kids* initiative, please email summernutritionprogram@dpi.nc.gov. A NCDPI Summer Nutrition Program Consultant will respond to your inquiries.