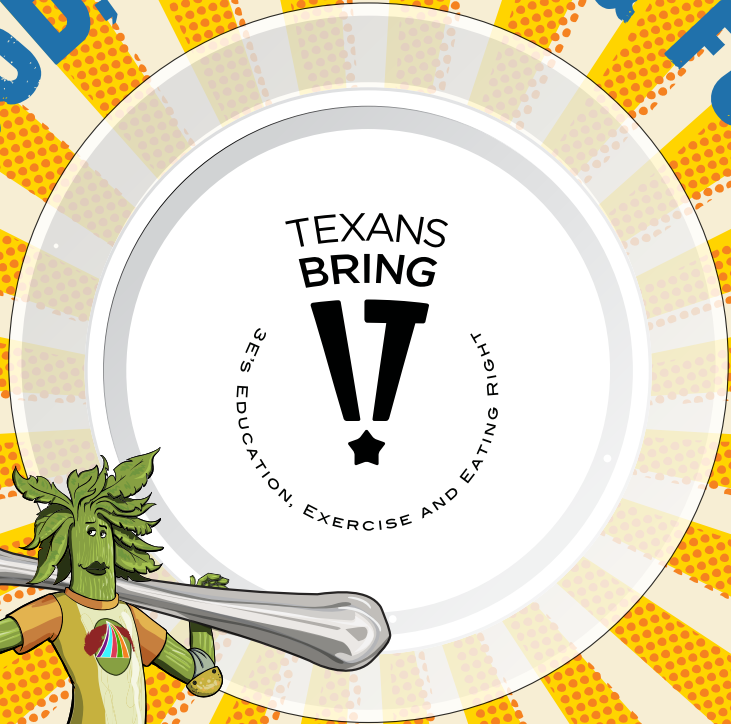


**FOOD, FRIENDS & FUN!**



**SUMMER  
FOOD  
SERVICE  
PROGRAM**

**A PARTNER GUIDE**



## **ABOUT SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM**

The Texas Department of Agriculture is committed to enhancing the health of all Texans. To address hunger, childhood obesity and healthy eating, the agency administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs for the state of Texas.

Many children around the country depend on free or reduced-price meals, served through schools, for proper nutrition. When school is not in session, some children may not get a well-balanced meal. The Texas Department of Agriculture's Summer Food Service Program provides these children with the same nutritious meals received during the school year. Meals are served at no charge to eligible children.

For additional program information, please visit the Summer Nutrition Programs website at [www.SummerFood.org](http://www.SummerFood.org) or contact Texas Department of Agriculture at 877-TEX-MEAL.

## **PARTNERS CAN HELP!**

Partners can help feed children in the summer months in any number of ways short of administering the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). To find out where the SFSP is in your area, go to [www.SummerFood.org](http://www.SummerFood.org) and click on "Eat Right, Find a Site".



### **Engage in Outreach:**

- Raise community or neighborhood awareness of summer feeding site locations
- Promote the program through donated media (radio, tv, online)
- Promote the program through website (blogs, sites, Twitter, Facebook)
- Hang posters and flyers (libraries, city buildings, rec centers, faith-based, etc.)
- Direct interested sites and sponsors to [www.SummerFood.org](http://www.SummerFood.org)
- Use materials on [www.SummerFood.org](http://www.SummerFood.org)

### **Provide Volunteer and Donation Resources:**

- Transportation for food or children
- Facilities and equipment
- Food service
- Special activities for the children (volunteers or non-profit organizations)
- Business expertise such as accounting or procurement

### **Offer Financial Assistance:**

- Financial assistance for sponsors and sites can be used to improve outreach, meal quality or program activities.

### **Provide Meal Preparation and Distribution Services:**

- School or food service management companies
- Faith-based organizations
- Private sector partners
- Culinary institutes and schools (meal preparation, recipes, activities)

### **Helpful Tips:**

- Teenagers and college students as volunteers from community organizations such as Americorps or Joint Training Partnership Act (JTPA)
- Culinary institutes and schools often require students to satisfy volunteer hours





# **DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM**

## **Become a sponsor**

- Sponsors handle the financial and administrative responsibilities
- Sponsors can manage themselves and also sponsor sites
- Sponsors provide meals to sites through school districts or food vendors

## **Who can become a sponsor?**

- Public or private school food authority (SFA)
- Residential summer camps or non-residential day camps
- Units of state, local municipal or county government
- Colleges or universities in National Youth Sports Program
- Private, non-profit organizations with tax-exempt status

## **Become a site**

- Sites distribute food to the children and keep track of the number of meals served

## **What are the types of sites?**

- Open site  
(serve all kids under 18yrs of age within certain eligible areas)
- Closed site  
(enrollment, staffing or space limitations)
- Camps  
(residential and non-residential)
- Mobile feeding site  
(takes meals directly to children)



## Food and Nutrition Division

3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING  
*Education, Exercise and Eating Right*

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
COMMISSIONER TODD STAPLES

For more information about the  
Summer Food Service Program,  
go to [www.SummerFood.org](http://www.SummerFood.org)  
or call (877) TEX-MEAL.

To find a feeding site during the  
summer months, call 211.



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