Policy Alert

Date: April 15, 2005
Reference: # SFSP 2005-4
To: Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Contractors
Subject: Determining Size and Income for Households with Deployed Military Members
Effective Date: Immediately

Purpose
To extend the “Operation Enduring Freedom” exception issued in Policy Alert SFSP 2004-2 on the treatment of income for free and reduced price meal eligibility determinations from deployed military personnel and extend the exception to future deployments.

Background
In the past, policy was issued concerning the treatment of income from deployed military personnel engaged in a specific campaign, such as Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Operation Enduring Freedom/Nobel Eagle. However, military deployments are initiated with little or no advance warning and each deployment receives a unique designation. In recognition of these special issues, this Policy Alert continues the exception to Operation Enduring Freedom and applies it to other future military deployments.

Implementation
This policy will remain in effect until rescinded or replaced by legislation, regulation, or future policy.

Procedure
Determining Household Size
When you determine household size, deployed service members should be considered family members living apart on a temporary basis. These military personnel, whether deployed temporarily or for an extended period of time, are counted in the number of household members.

Determining Household Income
You are to count only that portion of the deployed service member’s income made available by them or on their behalf to the household as income to the household.

Instruct families to include the names and that portion of income made available to the household from deployed service members on Form H1531, Child Nutrition Program Application. The determining official will count the service member as part of the household in establishing a child’s eligibility.

Contact
If you have any questions regarding this Policy Alert, please contact your Area Program Office.

This Policy Remains in Effect Until Further Notice