POLICY ALERT

Date: February 28, 2006
To: Special Milk Program (SMP) Contractors
Subject: Local Wellness Policy
Effective Date: July 1, 2006
Reference: # SMP 2006-1

Purpose
The Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 requires each Special Milk Program (SMP) contractor to develop a local wellness policy that promotes the health of students and addresses the growing problem of obesity.

Implementation
July 1, 2006

Procedure
SMP contractors must establish a local wellness policy by the beginning of School Year 2006-2007. A team of community members must be involved in the development of each local wellness policy. Parents, students, representatives of the SMP, the school board, school administrators, and the public must all be part of the development process.

To meet the requirements of a local wellness policy, SMP contractors must, at a minimum:
- Set goals for nutrition education.
- Set goals for physical activity.
- Set nutrition guidelines for all foods and beverages available on school campuses during the school day.
- Ensure that local guidelines for reimbursable school meals meet the program requirements and nutrition standards set forth by federal regulations.
- Set goals for other school-based activities designed to promote student wellness.
- Involve a broad group of members of the community.
- Draft a plan to measure the implementation of policies.
- Designate one or more persons within each school charged with operational responsibility for ensuring that each school fulfills the SMP Contractor’s local wellness policy.

Dates for training SMP contractors about the local wellness policy will be provided at a further time.

continued

This Policy Remains in Effect Until Further Notice
Procedure continued

Monitoring the Local Wellness Policy

Once local wellness policies are implemented they must be re-evaluated and updated on a continuing basis by the SMP contractors.

The local wellness policy will be reviewed during administrative reviews to ensure that each SMP contractor has a local wellness policy in place.

Resources

On October 18, 2005, the National Food Service Management Institute delivered a two-hour program on Local School Wellness Policy development for child nutrition professionals and other key players in the school and community. The program featured local school districts that have health and wellness efforts already underway.

Participant handouts and a link to view the program from your computer are available on the NFSMI Web site at http://www.nfsmi.org/Education/Satellite/ss37/program_info.htm.

You may borrow a DVD copy of the satellite program from the SNP Nutrition Library. Contact the library at 1-800-982-3261 or at www.snpnutritionlibrary.org for more information.

Additional resources to help SFAs develop their local wellness policy can be found at the following websites:

www.schoolwellnesspolicies.org
http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Healthy/wellnesspolicy.html

Adverse Action

If, during an administrative review, the SMP contractor does not have a local wellness policy in place and does not complete a corrective action plan in the appropriate time frames, the SMP contractor will face adverse action, up to and including the termination of their SMP contract.

Authority

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) correspondence 2005-SP-16 and 2006-SP-05.

Contact

If you have any questions please contact your Area Program Office.