POLICY NOTICE

Date: June 4, 2001       Reference #: SFSP 2001-06
To: Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Contractors
Subject: Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowances (FSSA)

This Notice applies only to closed enrolled sites that operate in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). It is being sent to sponsors of closed enrolled sites in case they receive inquiries from parents or guardians of children regarding the parents'/guardians' receipt of Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) payments.

The Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2001 (Public Law 106-398) requires the Department of Defense (DOD) to pay certain low income service members and their families a FSSA payment of up to $500 a month so that the families will not have to rely on food stamps. DOD began making FSSA payments to eligible service members beginning June 1, 2001. The FSSA payments are being identified as "FSSA" or "Saved Pay", and are being reported on service members' earnings statements along with their regular earnings.

FSSA payments are considered income to the household and should be included on the Form 1531, Child Nutrition Program Application when parents/guardians are reporting their household's income. Some military families may be receiving both FSSA payments and food stamps; children from these families would be categorically eligible for the SFSP because of their receipt of food stamps.