



Summer Non-Congregate Feeding 2026!

November 19, 2025

David Dierksen

Manager for Policy and Procedures



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

Fraud Hotline: 1-866-5-FRAUD-4 or 1-866-537-2834 | P.O. Box 12847 | Austin, TX 78711
Toll Free: (877) TEX-MEAL | For the hearing impaired: (800) 735-2989 (TTY)

This product was funded by USDA.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Food and Nutrition Division
Nutrition Assistance Programs



Updated 11/17/2025
www.SquareMeals.org

Calling All Summer Mandate Schools

- Districts **must** operate SSO or SFSP for 30 days if 50% or more of the students enrolled qualify for F/R meals....
- Unless the district qualifies for a waiver (waiver request process opened November 1 and closes January 31).

ASK YOURSELF:

- Are there kids in your area that are potentially missing out on meals this summer?
- Is transportation now an “insurmountable” obstacle with the availability of non-congregate meals?



Available Flexibilities

- Grab-and-Go Unitized Meals (10-day max distribution)
- Parent/Guardian Pick-Up
- Home Delivery (5-day max distribution)
- Bulk Food Component Distribution (5-day max distribution)
- Hybrid Congregate/Non-Congregate Sites



Mobile Routes

- Not home delivery – children pick up G&G meals from the route stop.
- Each stop must meet individual site requirements
- Allows sponsors to strategically target locations in a region that would minimize travel times for families.



Summary of Non-Congregate Requirements

- Site must be in rural-designated area
- 2-mile proximity required from nearest site.
- Sponsor must be in good standing
- Switched congregate to NC sites will be considered “new”



Non-Congregate Materials Coming Early Next Year!

- New NC Request Form:
 - Returning sites have option to skip uploading certain procedures if no changes.
 - Distribution days and times will be captured differently.
- Updated FAQs

<https://squaremeals.org/Programs/Summer-Meal-Programs/Summer-Non-Congregate-Feeding-Program>

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

2. fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email:

program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

Fraud Hotline: 1-866-5-FRAUD-4 or 1-866-537-2834 | P.O. Box 12847 | Austin, TX 78711
Toll Free: (877) TEX-MEAL | For the hearing impaired: (800) 735-2989 (TTY)

This product was funded by USDA.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Food and Nutrition Division
Nutrition Assistance Programs



Updated 11/17/2025
www.SquareMeals.org