



Special Milk Program (SMP)

Description

- Provides milk to children in schools, childcare institutions and eligible camps that do not participate in other federal child nutrition meal service programs.
- Requires that schools or institutions operate their milk programs on a nonprofit basis and agree to use the federal reimbursement to reduce the selling price of milk to all children.
- Requires participating schools/institutions to offer pasteurized fluid milk (unflavored or flavored) that meet State and local standards. All milk must contain vitamins A and D at levels specified by the Food and Drug Administration.
- Reimburses schools or institutions \$0.16 for each half pint of milk served for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010. For children who receive their milk free, the USDA reimburses schools the milk's net purchase price.

Background

- The program is authorized by the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.
- It is administered by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service through State administering agencies and is operated through agreements with school food authorities and institutions.

Participants

- Any child at a participating school, half-day pre-kindergarten/kindergarten program or institution. Children may buy milk or receive it free, depending on the choice of program options.
- Schools in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast programs may also participate and provide milk to children in half-day pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs where children do not have access to the school meal programs.
- 85.7 million half pints were served in FY 2008. (FY 2009 – 90 day data will up updated in NDB around 2/11/10).

Budget

- \$15.1 million in FY 2008.

Contact Information

For complete information, visit www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/milk or contact your State agency that administers the SMP. View Agency listings at www.fns.usda.gov/cnd, select "Contact Us," then "Child Nutrition Programs."