# SNP Memo #2022-2023-56

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**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA   
Department of Education**

DATE: March 17, 2023

TO: Directors, Supervisors, and Contact Persons Addressed

FROM: Sandra C. Curwood, PhD, RDN, ***Sandy***

## SUBJECT: Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas in the Summer Food Service Program

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform school food authorities (SFAs) and community organizations operating the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) of the authorization of permanent non-congregate meal service in rural areas starting in summer 2023. Please note that in Virginia, for summer 2023, only SFAs and community organizations operating the SFSP are eligible to operate non-congregate meal service in rural areas. Non-congregate meal service in rural areas is not an option for the Seamless Summer Option in summer 2023.

On March 14, 2023, the Virginia Department of Education, Office of School Nutrition Programs (VDOE-SNP) hosted a webinar entitled “Guidance on Non-Congregate Feeding in Rural Areas in the SFSP”. Click on this link for the [recording of this webinar](https://doe-virginia-gov.zoom.us/rec/share/dsWVgOTpcGPakXl5xLefhRVJQCyuxqD7L8g0gClS_HozrBQi-Po3MzZPMLuBq7dd.4eVX2d1AIuqTjzTK?startTime=1678819407000). The slide deck is being forwarded with this memo.

On February 28, 2023, the U.S. Department of Agriculture released [SFSP 01-2023, SP 05-2023 Implementation Guidance: Summer 2023 Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas](https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/SP05-2023_SFSP01-2023_os.pdf). The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance on the SFSP program for summer 2023, in a question-and-answer format, on operating non-congregate meal service in rural areas.

For more information, please contact your assigned SNP regional specialist for schools or CNP regional specialist for community organizations.

SCC/KAM/cc