# SNP Memo #2022-2023-60

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**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA   
Department of Education**

DATE: April 6, 2023

TO: Directors, Supervisors, and Contact Persons Addressed

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

## SUBJECT: Updated Guidance on Home Delivery in Rural Areas for Summer 2023, in the Summer Food Service Program

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide updated guidance on the use of area eligibility in home delivery, as part of a rural, non-congregate meal service in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). As per recent guidance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (USDA-FNS), SFSP sponsors in rural areas may use area eligibility to identify eligible households for home delivery. Area eligibility is defined as an area where 50 percent or more of children qualify for free or reduced-price meals in the National School Lunch Program.

Sponsors may operate home delivery in non-area eligible areas by collecting income forms and only claiming meals served to children that qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

Regardless of area eligibility status, all sponsors operating home delivery must first collect written consent forms from parents or guardians.

### Examples

Example 1: A school division operates the Community Eligibility Provision divisionwide; therefore, all children residing within the division’s attendance zones are eligible for home delivery.

Example 2: An elementary school has a free and reduced-price rate of 75 percent; therefore, all children residing in the elementary school’s attendance zone are eligible for home delivery.

Example 3: No schools in division have a free and reduced-price rate of 50 percent or higher. To operate home delivery, the school nutrition director or community organization must collect income forms and only claims meals for reimbursement to children that qualify for free or reduced-price meals.

### Additional Resources

On February 28, 2023, the USDA-FNS 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). Additionally, 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*](https://doe-virginia-gov.zoom.us/rec/share/dsWVgOTpcGPakXl5xLefhRVJQCyuxqD7L8g0gClS_HozrBQi-Po3MzZPMLuBq7dd.4eVX2d1AIuqTjzTK?startTime=1678819407000). *Please note that guidance in this webinar on the use of area eligibility to identify eligible households for home delivery differs, and is outdated, from the guidance provided in this memo.*

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

SCC/MVP/cc