



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

SFSP CN# 02-06

MEMORANDUM

To: School Health & Nutrition Program Sponsors

From: Mary Szafranski, Deputy Associate Superintendent
Arizona Department of Education, Health & Nutrition Unit

Holly Mueller, Program Director
Arizona Department of Education, School Health & Nutrition Programs

Date: January 20, 2006

RE: USDA announcement of Simplified Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) was notified by the USDA that as of January 1, 2006, all Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that participate in the Seamless SFSP will now have the Simplified Summer Food Service Program option available. Arizona will become the twentieth state to participate in this program nationwide. .

The largest and most important advantage the Simplified option offers over the Seamless program is the reimbursement rates. The Seamless program reimbursement rates are the same as the National School Lunch and Breakfast meal rates. However, the Simplified option reimbursement rates are the same as the Traditional Summer Food reimbursement rates which are substantially more than the Seamless rates. This would allow for sites that are unable to operate at more sites or for more meals due to financial constraints the opportunity to run more sites or extend their serving hours.

The ADE will be offering trainings on the new Simplified program beginning in March 2006 throughout the state. All LEAs who intend on operating the Simplified SFSP this summer will be required to attend one of the trainings offered. The trainings will provide more in-depth

information on the Simplified program and how it differs from the Seamless option. To register for training, go to www.ade.az.gov/onlineregistration.

The ADE is looking forward to working with each LEA who administers a Summer Food Program this year and assisting in making each program a success.

If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact your Health and Nutrition Specialist at 602-542-8700.