

ALL STATES EXCEPT ALASKA AND HAWAII—Continued

Initial 50 day care homes	86
Next 150 day care homes	65
Next 800 day care homes	51
Additional day care homes	45

¹ These rates do not include the value of commodities (or cash-in-lieu of commodities) which institutions receive as additional assistance for each lunch or supper served to participants under the program. Notices announcing the value of commodities and cash-in-lieu of commodities are published separately in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

The changes in the national average payment rates and the food service payment rates for day care homes reflect a 2.29 percent increase during the 12-month period May 1995 to May 1996 (from 148.6 in May 1995 to 152.0 in May 1996) in the food away from home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. The changes in the administrative reimbursement rates for sponsoring organizations of day care homes reflect a 2.89 percent increase during the 12-month period May 1995 to May 1996 (from 152.2 in May 1995 to 156.6 in May 1996) in the series for all items of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.

The total amount of payments available to each State agency for distribution to institutions participating in the program is based on the rates contained in this notice.

Authority: Sections 4(b)(2), 11(a), 17(c) and 17(f)(3)(B) of the National School Lunch Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1753, 1759(a), 1766) and section 4(b)(1)(B) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1773b).

Dated: July 3, 1996.

William E. Ludwig,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-17671 Filed 7-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

National School Lunch, Special Milk, and School Breakfast Programs; National Average Payments/Maximum Reimbursement Rates

AGENCY: Food and Consumer Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the annual adjustments to: (1) The "national average payments," the amount of money the Federal Government provides States for lunches, meal supplements and breakfasts served to children participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs; (2) the "maximum reimbursement rates," the maximum per

lunch rate from Federal funds that a State can provide a school food authority for lunches served to children participating in the National School Lunch Program; and (3) the rate of reimbursement for a half-pint of milk served to nonneedy children in a school or institution which participates in the Special Milk Program for Children. The payments and rates are prescribed on an annual basis each July. The annual payments and rates adjustments for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs reflect changes in the Food Away From Home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers. The annual rate adjustment for the Special Milk Program reflects changes in the Producer Price Index for Fluid Milk Products. These payments and rates are in effect from July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert M. Eadie, Chief, Policy and Program Development Branch, Child Nutrition Division, FCS, USDA, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, (703) 305-2620.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These programs are listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.553, No. 10.555 and No. 10.556, respectively, and are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 7 CFR Part 3015, Subpart V, and the final rule related notice published at 48 FR 29114, June 24, 1983.)

This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of that Act. This notice has been determined to be exempt under Executive Order 12866. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), no new recordkeeping or reporting requirements have been included that are subject to approval from the Office of Management and Budget.

Background

Special Milk Program for Children

Pursuant to section 3 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1772), the Department announces the rate of reimbursement for a half-pint of milk served to nonneedy children in a school or institution which participates in the Special Milk Program for Children. This rate is adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Producer Price Index for Fluid Milk Products (Code 0231), published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor.

For the period July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997, the rate of reimbursement for a half-pint of milk served to a nonneedy child in a school or institution which participates in the Special Milk Program is 12.25 cents. This reflects an increase of 8.96 percent in the Producer Price Index for Fluid Milk Products (Code 0231) from May 1995 to May 1996 (from a level of 122.8 in May 1995 to 133.8 in May 1996).

As a reminder, schools or institutions with pricing programs which elect to serve milk free to eligible children continue to receive the average cost of a half-pint of milk (the total cost of all milk purchased during the claim period divided by the total number of purchased half-pints) for each half-pint served to an eligible child.

National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs

Pursuant to sections 11 and 17A of the National School Lunch Act, (42 U.S.C. 1759a and 1766a), and section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, (42 U.S.C. 1773), the Department annually announces the adjustments to the National Average Payment Factors and to the maximum Federal reimbursement rates for meals and supplements served to children participating in the National School Lunch Program. Adjustments are prescribed each July 1, based on changes in the Food Away From Home series of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. The changes in the national average payment rates for

schools and residential child care institutions for the period July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997 reflect a 2.29 percent increase in the Price Index during the 12-month period May 1995 to May 1996 (from a level of 148.6 in May 1995 to 152.00 in May 1996).

Lunch Payment Factors

Section 4 of the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1753) provides general cash for food assistance payments to States to assist schools in purchasing food. There are two section 4 National Average Payment Factors for lunches served under the National School Lunch Program. The lower payment factor applies to lunches served by school food authorities in which less than 60 percent of the lunches served in the school lunch program during the second preceding school year were served free or at a reduced price. The higher payment factor applies to lunches served by school food authorities in which 60 percent or more of the lunches served during the second preceding school year were served free or at a reduced price. To supplement these section 4 payments, section 11 of the National School Lunch Act provides special cash assistance payments to aid schools in providing free and reduced price lunches. The section 11 National Average Payment Factor for each reduced price lunch served is set at 40 cents less than the factor for each free lunch.

As authorized under sections 8 and 11 of the National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1757, 1759a), maximum reimbursement rates for each type of lunch are prescribed by the Department in this Notice. These maximum rates ensure equitable disbursement of Federal funds to school food authorities.

Meal Supplement Payments in Afterschool Care Programs

Section 17A (42 U.S.C. 1766a) of the National School Lunch Act authorizes elementary and secondary schools to be reimbursed for meal supplements as part of the National School Lunch Program if they meet the following requirements (1) Operate school lunch

programs under the National School Lunch Act; (2) sponsor afterschool care programs; and (3) were participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program as of May 15, 1989. The reimbursement rates for supplements served in Afterschool Care Programs under the National School Lunch Program are the same as the rates for supplements served in centers under the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Breakfast Payment Factors

Section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 establishes National Average Payment Factors for free, reduced price and paid breakfasts served under the School Breakfast Program and additional payments for schools determined to be in "severe need" because they serve a high percentage of needy children.

Revised Payments

The following specific section 4 and section 11 National Average Payment Factors and maximum reimbursement rates are in effect through June 30, 1997. Due to a higher cost of living, the average payments and maximum reimbursements for Alaska and Hawaii are higher than those for all other States. The District of Columbia, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Guam use the figures specified for the contiguous States.

National School Lunch Program Payments

Section 4 National Average Payment Factors—In school food authorities which served less than 60 percent free and reduced price lunches in School Year 1994–95, the payments are:

Contiguous States—17.75 cents, maximum rate 25.75 cents; *Alaska*—28.50 cents, maximum rate 40.50 cents; *Hawaii*—20.75 cents, maximum rate 29.75 cents.

In school food authorities which served 60 percent or more free and reduced price lunches in School Year 1994–95, payments are: *Contiguous States*—19.75 cents, maximum rate 25.75 cents; *Alaska*—30.50 cents, maximum rate 40.50 cents; *Hawaii*—22.75 cents, maximum rate 29.75 cents.

Section 11 National Average Payment Factors—*Contiguous States*—free

lunch—166.00 cents, reduced price lunch 126.00 cents; *Alaska*—free lunch 269.00 cents, reduced price lunch 229.00 cents; *Hawaii*—free lunch 194.25 cents, reduced price lunch 154.25 cents.

Meal Supplements in Afterschool Care Programs—The payments are: *Contiguous States*—free supplement—50.50 cents, reduced price supplement—25.25 cents, paid supplement—4.50 cents; *Alaska*—free supplement—81.75 cents, reduced price supplement—40.75 cents, paid supplement—7.50 cents; *Hawaii*—free supplement—59.00 cents, reduced price supplement—29.50 cents, paid supplement—5.50 cents.

School Breakfast Program Payments

For schools "not in severe need" the payments are: *Contiguous States*—free breakfast 101.75 cents, reduced price breakfast 71.75 cents, paid breakfast 19.75 cents; *Alaska*—free breakfast 161.25 cents, reduced price breakfast 131.25 cents, paid breakfast 28.50 cents; *Hawaii*—free breakfast 118.25 cents, reduced price breakfast 88.25 cents, paid breakfast 22.25 cents.

For schools in "severe need" the payments are: *Contiguous States*—free breakfast 121.25 cents, reduced price breakfast 91.25 cents, paid breakfast 19.75 cents; *Alaska*—free breakfast 192.50 cents, reduced price breakfast 162.50 cents, paid breakfast 28.50 cents; *Hawaii*—free breakfast 140.75 cents, reduced price breakfast 110.75 cents, paid breakfast 22.25 cents.

Payment Chart

The following chart illustrates: the lunch National Average Payment Factors with the sections 4 and 11 already combined to indicate the per meal amount; the maximum lunch reimbursement rates; the reimbursement rates for meal supplements served in afterschool care programs; the breakfast National Average Payment Factors including "severe need" schools; and the milk reimbursement rate. All amounts are expressed in dollars or fractions thereof. The payment factors and reimbursement rates used for the District of Columbia, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and Guam are those specified for the contiguous States.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS—MEAL AND MILK PAYMENTS TO STATES AND SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITIES

[Expressed in Dollars or Fractions Thereof, Effective from July 1, 1996–June 30, 1997]

National school lunch program ¹		Less than 60%	60% or more	Maximum rate
Contiguous States	Paid	\$1.1775	\$1.1975	\$2.2575
	Reduced price	1.4375	1.4575	1.6075
	Free	1.8375	1.8575	2.0075
Alaska	Paid .....	.2850	.3050	.4050
	Reduced price	2.5750	2.5950	2.8400

SCHOOL PROGRAMS—MEAL AND MILK PAYMENTS TO STATES AND SCHOOL FOOD AUTHORITIES—Continued

[Expressed in Dollars or Fractions Thereof, Effective from July 1, 1996–June 30, 1997]

National school lunch program ¹		Less than 60%	60% or more	Maximum rate
Hawaii	Free	2.9750	2.9950	3.2400
	Paid .....	.2075	.2275	.2975
	Reduced price	1.7500	1.7700	1.9450
	Free	2.1500	2.1700	2.3450
School breakfast program		Non-severe need		Severe need
Contiguous States	Paid	\$.1975		\$.1975
	Reduced price .....	.7175		.9125
	Free	1.0175		1.2125
Alaska	Paid .....	.2850		.2850
	Reduced price	1.3125		1.6250
	Free	1.6125		1.9250
Hawaii	Paid .....	.2225		.2225
	Reduced price .....	.8825		1.1075
	Free	1.1825		1.4075
Special milk program		All milk	Paid milk	Free milk
Pricing programs without free option .....		.1225	N/A	N/A
Pricing programs with free option		N/A	.1225	(²)
Nonpricing programs .....		.1225	N/A	N/A

Supplements served in afterschool care programs

Contiguous States	Paid .....	.0450
	Reduced price .....	.2525
	Free .....	.5050
Alaska	Paid .....	.0750
	Reduced price .....	.4075
	Free .....	.8175
Hawaii	Paid .....	.0550
	Reduced price .....	.2950
	Free .....	.5900

¹ Payments listed for Free & Reduced Price Lunches include both sections 4 and 11 funds.² Average cost ½ pint milk.

Authority: Sections 4, 8, 11 and 17A of the National School Lunch Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 1753, 1757, 1759a, 1766a) and sections 3 and 4(b) of the Child Nutrition Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 1772 and 42 U.S.C. 1773(b)).

Dated: July 3, 1996.

William E. Ludwig,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-17670 Filed 7-10-96; 8:45 am]

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Rural Housing Service**Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection**

AGENCY: The Rural Housing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed collection; comments request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Rural Housing Service's (RHS) intention to request an extension for the currently approved information collection in support of the program for Community Facility Loans. **DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by September 9, 1996 to be assured of consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Yoonie MacDonald, Loan Specialist, Community Programs Division, RHS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 3222, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250. Telephone (202) 720-1490.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Community Facility Loans.

OMB Number: 0575-0015.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: The Community Facilities loan program is authorized by Section

306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926) to make loans to public entities, nonprofit corporations, and Indian tribes for the development of community facilities for public use in rural areas.

Community facilities programs have been in existence for many years. These programs have financed a wide range of projects varying in size and complexity from large general hospitals to small rural water systems. The facilities financed are designed to promote the development of rural communities by providing the infrastructure necessary to attract residents and rural jobs.

Information will be collected by the field offices from applicants, borrowers, and consultants. This information will be used to determine applicant/borrower eligibility, project feasibility, and to ensure borrowers operate on a sound basis and use funds for authorized purposes. Failure to collect