

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services	Policy
	MT CACFP 2011- 6 Rev 2
	Section: All Institutions
Child and Adult Care Food Program	Subject: Institution Eligibility for CACFP
	Effective Date: 4/1/2021

### **INSTITUTION ELIGIBILITY**

1. The following institutions are eligible to participate in the Montana Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP):
  - a. **Child Care Center:** Institution that is organized to serve nonresidential children enrolled for childcare and must have a current childcare license issued by the Quality Assurance Division of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (State agency).
  - b. **Outside School Hours:** Institution organized primarily to serve nonresidential children, 12 years of age and under, only during outside school hours and must meet certain self-certification requirements set by the State agency.
  - c. **At-Risk Afterschool:** Institution organized primarily to serve nonresidential children, school age through 18 years of age, only during after school hours, reside in a school district serving 50% or greater children qualifying for free and/or reduced priced school lunches, and meet certain self-certification requirements set by the State agency. Area eligibility determinations for At-Risk Afterschool institutions are valid for five years to the end of the school calendar year. The State agency will re-determine area eligibility by June 30 of the fifth year. [7 CFR 226.17a (i) 3]
  - d. **Emergency Shelters:** Institutions must provide residential and in-house meal services to homeless children and their parents/ guardians. The State and/or local health and safety codes must be met. Residential children 18 years of age and younger are eligible for participation in the CACFP.
  - e. **Adult Day Care Centers:** Institution that is organized to serve nonresidential adults that are functionally impaired or 60 years of age or older outside of their home environment and must have a current license issued by the State agency.
  - f. **Day Care Homes:** Private home setting, serving nonresidential children enrolled for childcare. Day care homes are eligible to participate in - CACFP under a sponsoring organization with a contract to operate the Program. Childcare homes must have a current Family Day Care Home or Group Day Care Home license issued by Early Childhood Services and Family Support Division of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (State agency).

**Note:** Institutions may be for-profit or non-profit. At the time of the application, for-profit institutions must have at least 25% of enrolled children/adults or 25% of licensed capacity, whichever is less, at the Free/Reduced rate to meet eligibility requirements.

**Note:** Childcare centers participating in the CACFP may also operate an outside school

hour and/or an at-risk afterschool program; however, the outside school hours and at-risk afterschool programs must be separate and distinct from the childcare center in their operation [(226.17(b)(5)] and separate program records must be maintained [226.19(b)(3)(ii)]. For-profit institutions operating an at-risk afterschool program through childcare center must meet the 25% free and/or reduced-price category criteria for their childcare center and the school district criteria of 50% or greater children qualifying for free and/or reduced-price school lunches for their at-risk afterschool program.

2. The following institutions are not eligible to participate in the Montana Child and Adult Care Food Program:
  - a. Unlicensed childcare centers and childcare homes are not eligible to participate in the CACFP because childcare center licensing is available to them from the State agency.
  - b. Childcare centers with a permissive license for drop-in childcare issued by the State agency are not eligible for the CACFP because the permissive license does not meet the following federal regulations and requirements to participate in the CACFP: 226.6(d)(2)(A), 226.6(d)(2)(B), 226.6(d)(2)(F)(3), and because childcare licensing for childcare centers is available to them from the State agency.
  - c. Legally Certified Providers or Legally Certified In-home Providers authorized by the State agency are not eligible to participate in the CACFP.

**References:** [7 CFR Part 226 Child and Adult Care Food Program], (ARM 37.75.101)

This Institution is an equal opportunity Provider.