

Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services	Policy
	MT CACFP 2016 – 4 Rev 1
	Section: All Institutions
Child and Adult Care Food Program	Subject: Length of Meal Service
	Date Revised: 11/03/2022

Length of Meal Service

State agencies may require any Institution or facility to allow a specific amount of time to elapse between meal services or require that meal services not exceed a specified duration.

Meals that are claimed for reimbursement must be served at traditional mealtimes.

Montana CACFP defines traditional mealtimes within the ranges indicated below:

1. Breakfast: start time on or before 9:00 a.m.
2. Lunch: start time 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
3. Supper: start time 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., *exception is in At-Risk Afterschool programs, supper must be served after the school day which may occur before 4:00 p.m.*
 - Meal service duration may be up to 1 hour. When the meal service is longer than one hour, the Institution must check the multiple shifts box by the meal service times within the provider application or agreement to indicate the meal service is served in shifts.
 - Meals and snacks should be timed to allow hunger to develop between meal services.
 - For all meal services except breakfast, the start time must be at least 2 hours after the previous meal service start time when snacks are served.
 - If a snack is not served between breakfast and lunch, there must be 3 hours between the start time of breakfast to the start time lunch:
 - If a snack is not served between lunch and supper, there must be at least 4 hours between the start time of lunch to the start time of supper.
 - The last meal service must begin no later than 30 minutes before the facility closing.
 - No meal services may be served outside of the facility operating days and hours.

This Institution is an equal opportunity Provider.