

# Share Your Experience

How can the Food Program, also known as the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), better support you and family child care providers like you?

This study is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service.

Family Child Care Home  
Provider Experience Survey

## Why is the USDA doing this survey?

As you know, many families depend on family child care homes for affordable, quality child care. The Food Program, also known as the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), plays a significant role in supporting the health and wellness of children by reimbursing child care providers for nutritious meals served to children in their care. However, many family child care providers have left the Food Program over the last two decades. This survey seeks to understand family child care providers' experiences with the Food Program and gather recommendations to improve provider participation in it.

## What questions will you ask me?

The survey asks questions about:

- Current and previous Food Program participation;
- Experiences with the Food Program; and
- How the Food Program can better support family child care providers.

## How was I selected?

You, along with about 5,300 others, were randomly selected from a list of family child care home providers who participated in the Food Program **at any point** since 2019.



## Why should I participate?

As a selected participant, you represent other family child care home providers like you. Your answers will help improve the Food Program for all family child care providers.

## Do I have to participate?

Participation in the study is voluntary. Providers are strongly encouraged to participate per Section 28 of the National School Lunch Act, which states that institutions participating in child nutrition programs authorized under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 are required to cooperate with the USDA and contractors conducting evaluation and research. If you do decide to participate, you can skip any questions you do not want to answer. The decision to participate will not affect any USDA benefits you receive now or in the future.

## What's in it for me?

You will receive \$40 after we receive your survey. Your participation will also help improve the Food Program for family child care providers like you.

## How do I access the web survey?



Visit the study website at [FCCH-Survey.org](http://FCCH-Survey.org) or scan the QR code to visit the website. Type in your unique PIN provided in your invitation letter.



## What if I lost the survey invitation letter?

Contact the Westat study team to retrieve your unique PIN and to get additional information about the survey.

## Can I complete the survey in a language other than English?

Yes. You can complete the survey in English or Spanish.

## Can I request a paper survey?

Yes. Contact the study team to receive a paper copy of the survey in English or Spanish, along with a postage paid, return envelope.

## Can I share the study invitation with other family child care home providers?

This is an invitation-only opportunity to participate in the survey. Please do not share the invitation with others.

Share your experiences and ideas about the Food Program, also known as Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).



OMB #: 0584-0676

Expiration Date: 10-31-2025

This information is being collected to assist the Food and Nutrition Service in understanding the decrease in CACFP participation among family child care home providers. This is a voluntary collection and FNS will use the information to provide technical assistance and inform program improvements to support family child care home participation in CACFP. This collection does not request any personally identifiable information under the Privacy Act of 1974. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0584-0676. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 0.0501 hours (3 minutes) per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Policy Support, 1320 Braddock Place, 5th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22306 ATTN: PRA (0584-0676). Do not return the completed form to this address.



## Data Privacy

We are serious about protecting your privacy and your responses to the survey to the full extent required by the law. The study was reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board that is focused on protecting your rights and privacy as a study participant. Responses will be grouped together and all study participants will remain anonymous in the report and other study documents.

## Research Team

This study is being conducted by Westat, with funding from the USDA.

## Schedule

February-June 2023: Collect survey data

September 2024: Disseminate study findings

## Contact Us

Toll-free hotline: 1-855-545-0288

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