Child Nutrition Program of Southern California



Office (619) 465-4500 or (800) 233-8107

Check Information Line (619) 465-2696

March 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Food availability in stores

Milk and Whole Grain – We understand that Milk was and is harder to find, especially finding Whole Milk and/or 1% or Fat-Free. At this time, if Child Care Providers cannot find the required Milk(s) (Whole Milk for children under 2 years and 1% or Fat-Free Milk for children 2 years – 12 years old) whichever one of the allowable Milks purchased may be served to both age groups.

If you have checked several stores and can't find any Milk and use KidKare, we have added a new option to the MM Food List for Milk which is #1 Milk Not Available — State Emergency for Children, and only for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner as Milk is not required at Snacks. #1 Milk Not Available — State Emergency WOULD ONLY BE USED IF THE CHILD CARE PROVIDER IS NOT ABLE TO PURCHASE ANY MILK AT ALL and will only be available during this State Emergency time. If you claim using the Scannable forms, you would note what type of Milk you were able to purchase on the Scannable forms or write Milk Not Available — State Emergency if unable to purchase Milk.

The Whole Grain issue is basically the same as the Milk issue; Providers must do the best they can....Cheerios, Mini Wheats, Wheat thins, etc. can be served at any meal. Remember, the requirement is: a serving of a Whole Grain-rich Product must be served at least once per day (at an allowable meal).

Please be assured that even though you may have heard that the California Governor stated all businesses should close except for essential services; Child Nutrition Program of Southern CA is a business that provides a government program and services and we are considered an essential service. Saying that, providing for our Providers' AND Employees' health and welfare is our highest priority. That is why we are not doing Site Reviews at this time, both for you, the Provider, the children in your care and also for our Field Representatives.

February reimbursement checks are normally issued in April 2020*
*Checks are issued within 5 Business days of receiving the funds from CDE
Checks for late claims are issued within 5 Business days of receiving the late run funds from CDE