Bites & Insights

September 2026

What is a Block Claim?

Block claiming occurs when meal counts are repeatedly claimed using the same or nearly identical attendance or meal patterns without reflecting children's actual daily attendance. CACFP requires meal claims to be based on the children who are actually in care and served a reimbursable meal each day.

When block claiming is identified, providers may first receive a warning letter requiring corrective action. Continued block claiming or failure to correct the issue may result in the Serious Deficiency process, which can ultimately affect a provider's participation in CACFP.

💡 Tips to Avoid Block Claiming

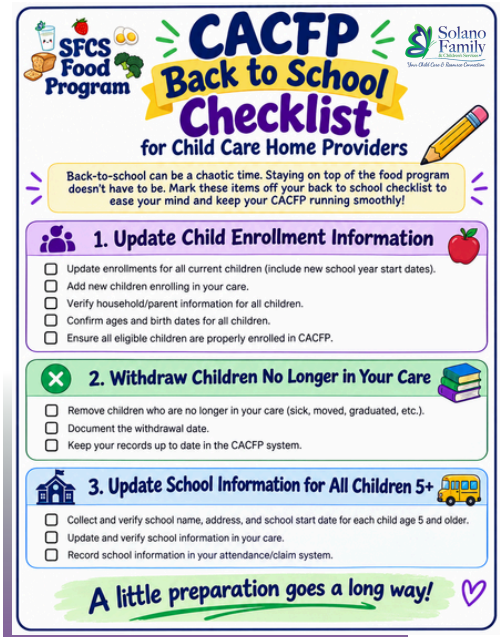
- Record attendance as children arrive and depart each day.
- Count meals at the point of service, not from memory.
- Update meal counts when children are absent, arrive late, or leave early.
- Review your records before submitting your monthly claim to ensure they accurately reflect daily attendance and meals served.
- Remember: Identical meal counts day after day may trigger a review.

Back to School Check-List

Back-to-school season brings lots of changes for children, families, and providers. As routines shift, don't forget to give your CACFP records a quick check-up too!

Completing this back-to-school checklist will help keep your program running smoothly and your claims accurate all year long.

Click **HERE** for your copy of the Back to School Checklist!



Reminders

Fact or Fiction

Its not too late to join us for a fun night of testing your knowledge about the CACFP on **September 9, 2026**.

Scan below or click **HERE** to register.

Did you complete your Annual Training?

The deadline to complete your training and quiz is: **September 30, 2026.**

Scan the QR code below to complete your training today.

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To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad3027.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the Complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture ,Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights ,1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington DC , 20250-9410; or Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or E-mail: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.