From: Cheri White, Administrator, Bureau of Nutrition Programs and Services

Subject: Update on Food and Nutrition Service Operations: Child Nutrition Programs

Date: October 1, 2013

Due to a lapse in appropriations for the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) as of October 1, 2013, FNS has initiated the process of orderly shutdown of nonessential operations.

In FNS, this means that the Child Nutrition Programs will be impacted as discussed below. The Child Nutrition Programs include the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Special Milk Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, the Summer Food Service Program, and the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program.

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Reimbursements and FY2014 Program Operations**

FY 2013 funds would continue to be available to pay reimbursement claims for all Child Nutrition Program meals served in FY 2013. This means school food authorities and other program operators would receive reimbursement for meals served prior to October 1, 2013.

FNS has confirmed that the Treasury ASAP letter of credit system (LOC) will continue to operate and all State agencies will be able to draw funding for FY 2013 benefits. The Child Nutrition Programs, including School Lunch, School Breakfast, Child and Adult Care Feeding, Summer Food Service, and Special Milk will continue operations into October.

Meal providers are paid on a reimbursement basis 30 days after the end of the service month. Limited carryover funding will be available during a lapse to support FY 2014 meal service. Once an appropriation is enacted, we expect additional resources will be available to reimburse October performance.

**NOTE:**

For the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, the second allocation of funds (October 2013 – June 2014) for School Year 2013-2014, will be provided to States by FNS once the Federal government resumes operations.

We are committed to keeping you as up to date as possible, within the limits of current circumstances. Please feel free to contact the Bureau of Nutrition if you should have any questions or concerns. Thank you.