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NEWS RELEASE

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Food That's In When School Is Out

LAUSD to Provide Students with FREE Meals this Summer

Los Angeles - Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Food Services' officials today announced the promotion of LAUSD's summer meal services program. The District is working towards making sure that no students in the community go hungry when schools are closed for the summer. More than 530,000 students in LAUSD qualify to receive free or reduced-price meals during the school year, but many do not get enough to eat when school is out. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) ensures that all children between the ages of one and 18 continue to grow and learn through good nutrition during the summer months.

"Our summer meals program is a building block in the community leading to healthy, happy youngsters who are ready to learn," said Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines. "Our responsibility to our students doesn't end when school lets out. Boys and girls who get enough to eat and have safe activities to participate in during the summer are less likely to get into trouble."

The LAUSD's Food Services Division, in collaboration with the Beyond The Bell Branch, will operate the Summer Food Service Program at select schools. Anyone between the ages of one and 18 may receive free meals.

"Many of our students, who rely on school breakfast and lunch during the school year, cannot continue to properly develop both physically and cognitively if they do not receive the proper nutrition. That's where we come in, by providing nutritious meals to keep kids nourished and healthy during the long summer months," said LAUSD Food Services Director Dennis Barrett.

For the majority of participating schools, the summer meal service program will run from July 6-30. At participating high schools, the program is scheduled to end on August 13. Depending on participation, the program may be extended at select schools.

The Summer Food Service Program is a federally funded program operated nationally by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and administered by the California Department of Education.

For more information about the Summer Food Program, contact the LAUSD Food Services Division at (213) 241-3366. Call 211 to find the nearest site.

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