

# Los Angeles Unified School District

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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 its 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 520,000 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 low-income children continue to grow and learn by providing good nutrition during the summer.

"When school is out, many of our students don't get enough to eat. The Summer program provides a variety of healthy choices," LAUSD Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines said.

The LAUSD's Summer Food Service Program, in collaboration with the Food Services Division and the Beyond The Bell Branch, will operate at select schools (see list below) and serve students between the ages of one and 18, regardless of their participation in academic or recreational activities.

"Many of our students, who rely on school breakfast and lunch during the school year, cannot maintain that energy during the summer if they do not receive the proper nutrition. That's where the Food Service program comes in, by providing nutritious meals to keep kids nourished and healthy during the long summer months," said Food Services Director Dennis Barrett.

For the majority of participating schools, the summer meal service program runs from July 6 through July 31. At participating high schools, the program ends on August 14. 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. Summer programs are located at approved sites that are either in low-income areas or serve a group of children, most of whom are low-income.

To find out about the Summer Food Program at LAUSD, contact LASUD Food Service Division at (213) 241-3366. To find out the location of the nearest site, call 211 or visit: [http://cafe-la.lausd.net/SFSP\\_Sites\\_2009](http://cafe-la.lausd.net/SFSP_Sites_2009).

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