

Find Meals for Kids When Schools are Closed

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/meals4kids>

The screenshot shows the USDA Food and Nutrition Service website's 'Find Meals for Kids' tool. It includes a map of the United States with major cities marked. A search bar on the right prompts users to 'Search for an address or locate on map' and provides a 'Find address or place' input field. Below the search bar, there is a slider set to '5 Miles' and a 'Select filters to apply' dropdown menu. A large blue text overlay across the map reads 'Click on image to enter'.

Type your location or address into the [interactive map](#) to find directions to nearby sites as well as hours of operation and contact information.

USDA Meals for Kids Site Finder

To slow the spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19), many schools have closed unexpectedly. To ensure that children who rely on free or reduced-price meals at school are able to get the nutrition they need, USDA is working with states to continue providing meals to students. Usually, the rules require that children gather and eat their meals on site. However, due to the exceptional circumstances of this public health emergency and the need for social distancing, USDA was able to make temporary changes so that meals may be taken home, and parents or guardians may pick meals for their children if the state allows. Families can use this tool to find directions to nearby sites as well as hours of operation and contact information.

Also, the [USDA National Hunger Hotline](#) remains a helpful resource for people seeking food assistance. The hotline, operated by Hunger Free America, can be reached Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET. at [1-866-3-HUNGRY \(1-866-348-6479\)](tel:1-866-3-HUNGRY) or [1-877-8-HAMBRE \(1-877-842-6273\)](tel:1-877-8-HAMBRE) (for Spanish).

[About the site finder](#)

[Developer Tools](#)

[About Summer Meals](#)

[Español](#)

Background

During an unexpected school closure, schools can leverage their participation in one of USDA's summer meal programs to provide meals at no cost to students. Under normal circumstances, those meals must be served in a group setting. However, in a public health emergency, the law allows USDA the authority to waive the group setting meal requirement, which is vital during a social distancing situation.

Since the outset of the coronavirus outbreak, USDA has provided states with broad flexibilities to ensure the continuation of meal service during COVID-19 related school closures. USDA is committed to using all the options available to us to help people get the food they need. To learn more about the USDA Food and Nutrition service and our response to COVID-19, visit www.fns.usda.gov/coronavirus and follow us on Twitter at [@USDANutrition](https://twitter.com/USDANutrition).

* As of May 19, 2022, 28 states - Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming - have provided information for the interactive map.