Meals-to-You

Meals-to-You is a collaboration between the United States Department of Agriculture and Baylor University wherein eligible students unreached by traditional summer food programs receive right at their doors shelf-stable, nutritious, individually packaged foods that children can prepare on their own. This program proved successful through a pilot operated in 2019.

The program is now being adapted as capacity allows to serve students affected by recent school closures. Below are parameters for how the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty proposes to adapt and expand Meals-to-You to serve families affected by COVID-19-related school closures. This is one of the many summer food service options school districts can use to ensure their kids have access to nutritious food during unexpected school closures.

Eligibility

School districts are eligible to apply if they meet the following criteria:

• Have announced school closures for at least four weeks, and
• Are SFSP area eligible, and
• Are rural as measured by the majority of the geographic footprint of the district is designated rural by USDA (fns.usda.gov/rural-designation), or the majority of the schools in the district are designated rural on the National Center of Education Statistics (nces.ed.gov)
• Proposals that meet criteria will be processed daily. If qualified proposals exceed service capacity, we will prioritize based on highest free and reduced lunch eligibility percentage or identified student percentage under CEP where relevant.

Process

• Eligible districts will apply to the appropriate state agency to assist and validate their application,
• After obtaining state agency approval, districts will submit an application to the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty (BCHP),
• Applications will be reviewed, and if approved, be matched with a vendor that has been approved by BCHP,
• The district and vendor negotiate a contract,
• Concurrently, the district will conduct outreach to their families who will apply on BCHP’s Meals-to-You website,
• Family enrollment will last for one week,
• Boxes of food will start to be delivered in approximately two weeks.