





# Special Milk




## Programs

**Special Milk Programs (SMP)** is a federally funded program that provides reimbursement for milk served by schools, eligible camps, and residential child care institutions that do not participate in any other Federal Child Nutrition Program.

 Students receive a 1/2 pint of fluid milk to encourage the consumption of milk in order to foster good health and academic achievement. Schools or institutions must offer only pasteurized fluid types of 1% unflavored or fat free flavored or unflavored milk.

 According to USDA's Dietary Guidelines for Americans, evidence shows that the intake of milk is linked to improved bone health, especially in children and adolescents. Choosing fat-free or low-fat milk provides the same nutrients with less solid fat and fewer calories than whole milk. These nutrients are necessary to ensure proper growth, development, and bone mass formation.

 SMP helps to establish the important habit of drinking milk in young children, as those who consume milk at an early age are more likely to do so as adults.



### SMP's 3 Program Options

① **Paid Milk Only (PMO)** is reimbursed at the paid rate for all the milk served to students

② **Free and Paid Milk (FPM)** is reimbursed at the free and paid rate for all milk served to students

③ **Split Session Milk Program (SSMP)** allows for the serving of milk to students enrolled in Split Session Kindergarten or Preschool Programs where they do not have access to the National School Lunch Program



## Reimbursement



Claims based on the number of 1/2 pints of milk actually served to students



The paid rate of reimbursement is established yearly by USDA. The free rate of reimbursement is the average cost per 1/2 pint based on the individual LEA's cost



Electronically file monthly a reimbursement voucher in the School Nutrition Electronic Application and Reimbursement System (SNEARS)



Keep all records on file and available for review for 3 years following the fiscal year which they pertain to

## Guidelines



SMP may not be operated in a school or institution which is also participating in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program



Operate the program on a nonprofit basis solely for the benefit of all students within the school



Electronically submit an agreement with the Division of Food and Nutrition annually



Establish a price charged to the paying student within the maximum established by NJDA in compliance with the federal price equity requirements



Household income applications are required for the Free and Paid Milk Program (FPM)



New Jersey State Department of Agriculture Division of Food & Nutrition School Nutrition Programs

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