§ 250.60 Use of donated foods in the school food service.

(a) Use of donated foods in school lunches and other meals or activities. The school food authority should use donated foods, as far as practical, in the lunches served to schoolchildren, for which they receive an established per-meal value of donated food assistance each school year. However, the school food authority may also use donated foods in other nonprofit school food service activities. Revenues received from such activities must accrue to the school food authority’s nonprofit school food service account. Some examples of other activities in which donated foods may be used include:

(1) School breakfasts or other meals served in child nutrition programs;
(2) A la carte foods sold to children;
(3) Meals served to adults directly involved in the operation and administration of the nonprofit food service, and to other school staff; and
(4) Training in nutrition, health, food service, or general home economics instruction for students.

(b) Use of donated foods outside of the nonprofit school food service. The school food authority should not use donated foods in meals or food service activities that do not benefit primarily schoolchildren, such as banquets or catered events. However, their use in such meals or activities may not always be avoided, e.g., for a school food authority utilizing single inventory management. In all cases, the school food authority must ensure reimbursement to the nonprofit school food service account for the value of donated foods used in such activities, in addition to reimbursement for other resources utilized from that account. Since school food authorities utilizing single inventory management cannot reimburse the nonprofit school food service account based on actual usage of donated foods outside of the nonprofit school food service, they must establish an alternate method—e.g., by including the current per-meal value of donated food reimbursement in the price charged for the food service activities.

(c) Use of donated foods in a contract with a food service management company. A school food authority may use donated foods in a contract with a food service management company to conduct the food service. The contract must meet the requirements in subpart D of this part with respect to donated foods, and must also meet requirements in 7 CFR part 210 and 7 CFR parts 3016 or 3019, as applicable, with respect to the procurement of such contracts. The school food authority must also ensure that a food service management company providing meals for banquets or catered events, or other food service activities that do not benefit primarily schoolchildren, ensure reimbursement to the nonprofit school food service account for donated foods used in such activities, in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section.

(d) Use of donated foods in providing a meal service to other school food authorities. A school food authority may use donated foods to provide a meal service to other school food authorities, under an agreement between the parties. A school food authority providing such a service may commingle its own donated foods and the donated foods of other school food authorities that are parties to the agreement.

§ 250.61 Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

(a) Distribution of donated foods in CACFP. The Department provides donated foods in CACFP to distributing agencies, which provide them to child care and adult care institutions participating in CACFP for use in serving nutritious lunches and suppers to eligible recipients. Distributing agencies
and child care and adult care institutions must also adhere to Federal regulations in 7 CFR part 226, as applicable.

(b) Types and quantities of donated foods distributed. For each school year, the distributing agency receives, at a minimum, the national per-meal value of donated food assistance (or cash in lieu of donated foods) multiplied by the number of reimbursable lunches and suppers served in the State in the previous school year, as established in Section 6(c) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1755(c)). The national per-meal value is adjusted each year to reflect changes in the Bureau of Labor Statistic’s Producer Price Index for Foods Used in Schools and Institutions. The adjusted per-meal value is published in a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER in July of each year. Reimbursable lunches and suppers are those meeting the nutritional standards established in 7 CFR part 226. The number of reimbursable lunches and suppers may be adjusted during, or at the end of the school year, in accordance with 7 CFR part 226. In addition to Section 6 entitlement foods (42 U.S.C. 1755(c)), the distributing agency may also receive Section 14 donated foods (42 U.S.C. 1762(a)), and donated foods under Section 32 (7 U.S.C. 612c), Section 416 (7 U.S.C. 1431), or Section 709 (7 U.S.C. 1446a-1), as available, for distribution to child care and adult care institutions participating in CACFP.

(c) Cash in lieu of donated foods. In accordance with the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, and with 7 CFR part 226, the State administering agency must determine whether child care and adult care institutions participating in CACFP wish to receive donated foods or cash in lieu of donated foods, and ensure that they receive the preferred form of assistance. The State administering agency must inform the distributing agency (if a different agency) which institutions wish to receive donated foods and must ensure that such foods are provided to them. However, if the State administering agency, in consultation with the distributing agency, determines that distribution of such foods would not be cost-effective, it may, with the concurrence of FNS, provide cash payments to the applicable institutions instead.

(d) Use of donated foods in a contract with a food service management company. A child care or adult care institution may use donated foods in a contract with a food service management company to conduct its food service. The contract must meet the requirements in subpart D of this part with respect to donated foods, and must also meet requirements in 7 CFR part 226 and 7 CFR parts 3016 or 3019, as applicable, with respect to the procurement of such contracts.

(e) Applicability of other requirements in this subpart to CACFP. The requirements in this subpart relating to the ordering, storage and inventory management, and use of donated foods in NSLP, also apply to CACFP. However, in accordance with 7 CFR part 226, a child care or adult care institution that uses donated foods to prepare and provide meals to other such institutions is considered a food service management company.

§ 250.62 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

(a) Distribution of donated foods in SFSP. The Department provides donated foods in SFSP to distributing agencies, which provide them to eligible service institutions participating in SFSP for use in serving nutritious meals to needy children primarily in the summer months, in their nonprofit food service programs. Distributing agencies and service institutions in SFSP must also adhere to Federal regulations in 7 CFR part 225, as applicable.

(b) Types and quantities of donated foods distributed. The distributing agency receives donated foods available under Section 6 and Section 14 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1755 and 1762), and may also receive donated foods under Section 32 (7 U.S.C. 612c), Section 416 (7 U.S.C. 1431), or Section 709 (7 U.S.C. 1446a-1), as available, for distribution to eligible service institutions participating in SFSP. Section 6 donated foods are provided to distributing agencies in accordance with the number of meals served in the State in the previous school year that are eligible for