These evaluations shall be aimed at assessing the effectiveness of the various activities undertaken by the State and local agencies. State officials shall analyze why some activities have proved effective while others have not and shall initiate appropriate improvements. The results of the evaluations shall be used to make adjustments in ongoing activities and to plan activities and programs for the next year’s State plan. The State agency shall submit a plan for evaluation of Program activities as part of the State plan in accordance with §227.37(b)(14).

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0584-0062)

§227.36 Requirements of needs assessment.

(a) The needs assessment is an ongoing process which identifies the discrepancies between “what should be” and “what is” and shall be applied to each category listed below to enable State agencies to determine their nutrition education and training needs for each year. The needs assessment shall identify the following as a minimum:

(1) Children, teachers, and food service personnel in need of nutrition education and training;

(2) Existing State or federally funded nutrition education and training programs including their:
   (i) Goals and objectives;
   (ii) Source and level of funding;
   (iii) Any available documentation of their relative success or failure; and
   (iv) Factors contributing to their success or failure;

(3) Offices or agencies at the State and local level designated to be responsible for nutrition education and training of teachers and school food service personnel;

(4) Any relevant State nutrition education mandates;

(5) Funding levels at the State and local level for preservice and inservice nutrition education and training of food service personnel and teachers;

(6) State and local individuals, and groups conducting nutrition education and training;

(7) Materials which are currently available for nutrition education and training programs, and determine for each:
   (i) Subject area and content covered;
   (ii) Grade level;
   (iii) How utilized;
   (iv) Acceptability by user;
   (v) Currency of materials;

(8) Any major child nutrition related health problems in each State;

(9) Existing sources of primary and secondary data, including any data that has been collected for documenting the State’s nutrition education and training needs;

(10) Available documentation of the competencies of teachers in the area of nutrition education;

(11) Available documentation of the competencies of food service personnel;

Subpart C—State Coordinator Provisions

§227.35 Responsibilities of State coordinator.

At a minimum, the State Coordinator shall be responsible for:

(a) Preparation of a budget,

(b) The conduct of the needs assessment,

(c) Development of a State plan,

(d) Implementation of the approved State Plan,

(e) Evaluation of the progress and implementation of the State Plan,

(f) Coordination of the Program with the Child Nutrition Programs at the State and local levels,

(g) Coordination of the Program with other nutrition education and training programs conducted with Federal or State funds,

(h) Communication of needs and accomplishments of State nutrition education and training programs to parents and the community at large,

(i) Use of Program funds in compliance with all regulations, instructions, or other guidance material provided by FNS,

(j) Coordinating the submission and preparation of the Program financial status report (SF–269), and

(k) Annual evaluation of the effectiveness of the State Plan.