Emergency Meals-to-You
March 26, 2020

In partnership with USDA and state agencies, the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty (BCHP) has implemented the Emergency Meals-to-You program to provide shelf-stable, easily prepared, kid-friendly meals to students during unexpected school closures lasting **four weeks or longer**.

At **no cost** to the school district, BCHP provides administrative support and technical assistance, and connects school districts with vendors who have the capacity to purchase, package, and deliver a box of meals containing 10 meals that meet nutrition requirements. **This program is primarily directed towards rural families**, for whom traditional SFSP/SSO service options are a challenge due to distance and transportation, but can be adapted for other challenges, like quarantines or natural disasters.

This delivery method will be implemented on a first come first serve basis. Districts that wish to participate should meet the following criteria:

- Be a school food authority in **good standing** with the state agency
- Have school campuses located in a **rural county**. Rural designations can be found through:
  - The National Center of Education Statistics (nces.ed.gov)
  - USDA rural designation (fns.usda.gov/rural-designation).
- Have announced a school closure lasting **four weeks or longer**
- Have participating school campuses with **50% or greater free or reduced-price eligibility**

Districts interested in applying should visit: [https://mealstoyou.org/emergency-meals-to-you-school-districts/](https://mealstoyou.org/emergency-meals-to-you-school-districts/).

Once districts complete the application, this is the process:
- Districts send the application to their state agency contacts listed on mealstoyou.org.
- The state agency will briefly look over the application and ensure districts meet the criteria listed above.
- The state agency will then send the application to our Meals to You team.
- Our team will reach out to establish what method of enrollment the district would like to use.
  - There are two methods of enrollment and all material needed will be provided (script and language)
    - Districts provide the information and families sign up individually through [https://mealstoyou.org/](https://mealstoyou.org/)
      - Once families’ applications are received our team will double check the information with the district’s database.
    - Districts can start a call center approach (script and what information is needed will be provided)
      - This method encourages using FNS staff to call eligible families and have them opt-in, compiling a spread sheet/roster of families, and sending to the Meals to You team directly
      - This method tends to be a little more expedient, but please use the method that is best for the district and their team.
- Once we have confirmed the addresses of the families the vendor will mail a box with two weeks of shelf-stable breakfasts and lunches.
- The program will last until the school district returns to school or through the end of the school year.