



SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

TEXAS POLICY

In Texas, organizations contracting directly with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) to operate nutrition programs federally funded through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) are called Contracting Entities, or CEs. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a federally funded nutrition program and, as such, sponsors are considered CEs. CEs operating the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) should reference the *Administrator's Reference Manual (ARM) Section 12, Seamless Summer Option*, for guidance.

Each year, the USDA publishes the SFSP *Administrative Guidance for Sponsors (AGS)* which provides federal policy, program guidance and information for all CEs that participate or plan to participate in SFSP. TDA occasionally issues a Texas Policy that supplements federal policy found in the AGS.

Rural Designations in SFSP

On April 30, 2015, USDA issued policy memorandum SFSP 04-2015 (v.2), [*Rural Designations in the Summer Food Service Program - Revised*](#), which provides guidance on rural designations in SFSP and introduces a new online tool CEs may use to assist with determining a rural designation of a site. SFSP regulations define *rural* as any area in a county which is not a part of a Metropolitan Statistical Area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), or any "pocket" within a Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is geographically isolated from urban areas, as determined by TDA and USDA. This Texas policy outlines the process on how a CE may submit a request for a rural designation of a SFSP site located in a Metropolitan Statistical Area to TDA.

A *Metropolitan Statistical Area* is defined by the OMB as a location where there is at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more population, plus adjacent territory, which has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties, based upon census data. CEs should refer to OMB Bulletin NO. 12-01, [*Revised Delineations of Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Micropolitan Statistical Areas, and Combined Statistical Areas, and Guidance on Uses of the Delineations of These Areas*](#) for a list of current delineations of statistical areas and OMB definitions. A list of Texas counties and rural/urban (non-rural) designations is located in the section "Texas County Code List" below for reference.

Reimbursement Rates for Sites

The SFSP has two different levels of administrative reimbursement rates:

- Rural and/or Self-prep Sites
- Vended, Urban Sites

The higher administrative reimbursement rate is for CEs of sites located in rural areas *and/or* for CEs of sites that prepare or assemble their own meals. The lower rate is for all other CEs, or those that have vended, urban sites.

The current SFSP reimbursement rates can be located on the “Summer Feeding Reimbursement Rates” on <http://www.summerfood.org>.

Rural Designation Map

Metropolitan Statistical Areas for the entire United States now may be accessed through USDA’s FNS Rural Designation Map at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/rural-designation>. CEs may follow the instructions on the link for using this map to determine if a site may be designated as rural for purposes of SFSP.

Process for TDA Approval of a Rural Designation for a Site Located in a Metropolitan Statistical Area

With USDA’s approval, TDA *may* determine a SFSP site located within a Metropolitan Statistical Area as being in a rural “pocket” and designated as rural.

NOTE: As a reminder, all sites at which meals are prepared on-site or at a central kitchen (self-prep), in either urban or rural areas, receive the higher reimbursement rate. For this reason, it is recommended that only CEs with urban, vended sites that have reason to believe the site may qualify as being in a rural “pocket” of a Metropolitan area should submit a request for a rural designation.

This approval process is for obtaining permission from TDA and USDA to designate a site located in a Metropolitan Statistical Area as rural. A CE’s request to TDA should be submitted at least 60 days prior to the start of SFSP operations at the site and, at a minimum, provide the following information:

- CE ID and name
- The name, address, and site ID number assigned in TX-UNPS of the site(s) located in a Metropolitan area (designated as urban) to be considered by TDA for a rural designation
- The names of other SFSP sites located within ¼ mile of a site listed above, if known
- The name of the closest school to each site listed above and its school district
- A list of the name(s) of other sites within the same zip code from the “Eat Right, Find a Site!” site locator on <http://www.summerfood.org>
- A thorough explanation of how the site is located in a rural “pocket,” located in an area geographically isolated from urban centers
- An aerial overview, such as an image from an online mapping tool, which demonstrates how the site is geographically isolated from urban centers (area shown around the site must be at least ¼ of a mile in radius from the site)

CEs requesting permission to designate a site located in a Metropolitan area as rural should submit their written request to TDA as follows:

- Email to:* SNPWaivers@TexasAgriculture.gov
 Subject: Rural Designation Request (CE name)
- Fax to:* (888) 203-6593
 ATTN: Coordinator for Food and Nutrition Special Projects
 Subject: Rural Designation Request (CE name)
- Mail to:* Texas Department of Agriculture
 Food and Nutrition
 ATTN: Coordinator for Food & Nutrition Special Projects
 P.O. Box 12847
 Austin, Texas 78711
- Overnight to:* Texas Department of Agriculture
 Food and Nutrition
 ATTN: Coordinator for Food and Nutrition Special Projects
 1700 North Congress Avenue
 Austin, Texas 78701

TDA or the USDA may determine that more information is required before a request to designate a metropolitan site as rural can be processed. If more information is required, TDA will request the information from the CE and once the CE has provided the requested information to TDA, the information submitted will be considered.

TDA will notify CEs of approval or denial of a rural designation request.

NOTE: Any rural designations approved by TDA will be applicable only for the current SFSP year.

Texas County Code List

The Metropolitan Statistical Areas are defined in OMB Bulletin No. 13-01, [Revised Delineations of Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Micropolitan Statistical Areas, and Combined Statistical Areas, and Guidance on Uses of the Delineations of These Areas – February 28, 2013](#). The following rural and non-rural (indicated as “urban” in this list) designations are derived from the OMB’s determinations of Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Counties designated as *urban* are highlighted in purple for easy reference.

| County Code | County Name/ Description | Rural/Urban |
|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 001 | Anderson | Rural |
| 002 | Andrews | Rural |
| 003 | Angelina | Rural |
| 004 | Aransas | Urban |
| 005 | Archer | Urban |
| 006 | Armstrong | Urban |
| 007 | Atascosa | Urban |
| 008 | Austin | Urban |
| 009 | Bailey | Rural |
| 010 | Bandera | Urban |
| 011 | Bastrop | Urban |
| 012 | Baylor | Rural |
| 013 | Bee | Rural |
| 014 | Bell | Urban |
| 015 | Bexar | Urban |
| 016 | Blanco | Rural |
| 017 | Borden | Rural |
| 018 | Bosque | Rural |
| 019 | Bowie | Urban |
| 020 | Brazoria | Urban |
| 021 | Brazos | Urban |
| 022 | Brewster | Rural |
| 023 | Briscoe | Rural |
| 024 | Brooks | Rural |
| 025 | Brown | Rural |
| 026 | Burleson | Urban |
| 027 | Burnet | Rural |
| 028 | Caldwell | Urban |
| 029 | Calhoun | Rural |
| 030 | Callahan | Urban |
| 031 | Cameron | Urban |
| 032 | Camp | Rural |
| 033 | Carson | Urban |
| 034 | Cass | Rural |
| 035 | Castro | Rural |
| 036 | Chambers | Urban |
| 037 | Cherokee | Rural |
| 038 | Childress | Rural |
| 039 | Clay | Urban |
| 040 | Cochran | Rural |
| 041 | Coke | Rural |

| County Code | County Name/ Description | Rural/Urban |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 042 | Coleman | Rural |
| 043 | Collin | Urban |
| 044 | Collingsworth | Rural |
| 045 | Colorado | Rural |
| 046 | Comal | Urban |
| 047 | Comanche | Rural |
| 048 | Concho | Rural |
| 049 | Cooke | Rural |
| 050 | Coryell | Urban |
| 051 | Cottle | Rural |
| 052 | Crane | Rural |
| 053 | Crockett | Rural |
| 054 | Crosby | Urban |
| 055 | Culberson | Rural |
| 056 | Dallam | Rural |
| 057 | Dallas | Urban |
| 058 | Dawson | Rural |
| 059 | Deaf Smith | Rural |
| 060 | Delta | Rural |
| 061 | Denton | Urban |
| 062 | Dewitt | Rural |
| 063 | Dickens | Rural |
| 064 | Dimmit | Rural |
| 065 | Donley | Rural |
| 066 | Duval | Rural |
| 067 | Eastland | Rural |
| 068 | Ector | Urban |
| 069 | Edwards | Rural |
| 070 * | Ellis | Urban |
| 071 * | El Paso | Urban |
| 072 | Erath | Rural |
| 073 | Falls | Urban |
| 074 | Fannin | Rural |
| 075 | Fayette | Rural |
| 076 | Fisher | Rural |
| 077 | Floyd | Rural |
| 078 | Foard | Rural |
| 079 | Fort Bend | Urban |
| 080 | Franklin | Rural |
| 081 | Freestone | Rural |
| 082 | Frio | Rural |
| 083 | Gaines | Rural |
| 084 | Galveston | Urban |
| 085 | Garza | Rural |
| 086 | Gillespie | Rural |
| 087 | Glasscock | Rural |
| 088 | Goliad | Urban |
| 089 | Gonzales | Rural |
| 090 | Gray | Rural |
| 091 | Grayson | Urban |
| 092 | Gregg | Urban |
| 093 | Grimes | Rural |

| County Code | County Name/ Description | Rural/Urban |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 094 | Guadalupe | Urban |
| 095 | Hale | Rural |
| 096 | Hall | Rural |
| 097 | Hamilton | Rural |
| 098 | Hansford | Rural |
| 099 | Hardeman | Rural |
| 100 | Hardin | Urban |
| 101 | Harris | Urban |
| 102 | Harrison | Rural |
| 103 | Hartley | Rural |
| 104 | Haskell | Rural |
| 105 | Hays | Urban |
| 106 | Hemphill | Rural |
| 107 | Henderson | Rural |
| 108 | Hidalgo | Urban |
| 109 | Hill | Rural |
| 110 | Hockley | Rural |
| 111 | Hood | Urban |
| 112 | Hopkins | Rural |
| 113 | Houston | Rural |
| 114 | Howard | Rural |
| 115 | Hudspeth | Urban |
| 116 | Hunt | Urban |
| 117 | Hutchinson | Rural |
| 118 | Irion | Urban |
| 119 | Jack | Rural |
| 120 | Jackson | Rural |
| 121 | Jasper | Rural |
| 122 | Jeff Davis | Rural |
| 123 | Jefferson | Urban |
| 124 | Jim Hogg | Rural |
| 125 | Jim Wells | Rural |
| 126 | Johnson | Urban |
| 127 | Jones | Urban |
| 128 | Karnes | Rural |
| 129 | Kaufman | Urban |
| 130 | Kendall | Urban |
| 131 | Kenedy | Rural |
| 132 | Kent | Rural |
| 133 | Kerr | Rural |
| 134 | Kimble | Rural |
| 135 | King | Rural |
| 136 | Kinney | Rural |
| 137 | Kleberg | Rural |
| 138 | Knox | Rural |
| 139 | Lamar | Rural |
| 140 | Lamb | Rural |
| 141 | Lampasas | Urban |
| 142 | Lasalle | Rural |
| 143 | Lavaca | Rural |
| 144 | Lee | Rural |
| 145 | Leon | Rural |

| County Code | County Name/ Description | Rural/Urban |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 146 | Liberty | Urban |
| 147 | Limestone | Rural |
| 148 | Lipscomb | Rural |
| 149 | Live Oak | Rural |
| 150 | Llano | Rural |
| 151 | Loving | Rural |
| 152 | Lubbock | Urban |
| 153 | Lynn | Urban |
| 154 | Madison | Rural |
| 155 | Marion | Rural |
| 156 | Martin | Urban |
| 157 | Mason | Rural |
| 158 | Matagorda | Rural |
| 159 | Maverick | Rural |
| 160 | McCulloch | Rural |
| 161 | McLennan | Urban |
| 162 | McMullen | Rural |
| 163 | Medina | Urban |
| 164 | Menard | Rural |
| 165 | Midland | Urban |
| 166 | Milam | Rural |
| 167 | Mills | Rural |
| 168 | Mitchell | Rural |
| 169 | Montague | Rural |
| 170 | Montgomery | Urban |
| 171 | Moore | Rural |
| 172 | Morris | Rural |
| 173 | Motley | Rural |
| 174 | Nacogdoches | Rural |
| 175 | Navarro | Rural |
| 176 | Newton | Urban |
| 177 | Nolan | Rural |
| 178 | Nueces | Urban |
| 179 | Ochiltree | Rural |
| 180 | Oldham | Urban |
| 181 | Orange | Urban |
| 182 | Palo Pinto | Rural |
| 183 | Panola | Rural |
| 184 | Parker | Urban |
| 185 | Parmer | Rural |
| 186 | Pecos | Rural |
| 187 | Polk | Rural |
| 188 | Potter | Urban |
| 189 | Presidio | Rural |
| 190 | Rains | Rural |
| 191 | Randall | Urban |
| 192 | Reagan | Rural |
| 193 | Real | Rural |
| 194 | Red River | Rural |
| 195 | Reeves | Rural |
| 196 | Refugio | Rural |
| 197 | Roberts | Rural |

| County Code | County Name/ Description | Rural/Urban |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 198 | Robertson | Urban |
| 199 | Rockwall | Urban |
| 200 | Runnels | Rural |
| 201 | Rusk | Urban |
| 202 | Sabine | Rural |
| 203 | San Augustine | Rural |
| 204 | San Jacinto | Rural |
| 205 | San Patricio | Urban |
| 206 | San Saba | Rural |
| 207 | Schleicher | Rural |
| 208 | Scurry | Rural |
| 209 | Shackelford | Rural |
| 210 | Shelby | Rural |
| 211 | Sherman | Rural |
| 212 | Smith | Urban |
| 213 | Somervell | Urban |
| 214 | Starr | Rural |
| 215 | Stephens | Rural |
| 216 | Sterling | Rural |
| 217 | Stonewall | Rural |
| 218 | Sutton | Rural |
| 219 | Swisher | Rural |
| 220 | Tarrant | Urban |
| 221 | Taylor | Urban |
| 222 | Terrell | Rural |
| 223 | Terry | Rural |
| 224 | Throckmorton | Rural |
| 225 | Titus | Rural |
| 226 | Tom Green | Urban |
| 227 | Travis | Urban |
| 228 | Trinity | Rural |
| 229 | Tyler | Rural |
| 230 | Upshur | Urban |
| 231 | Upton | Rural |
| 232 | Uvalde | Rural |
| 233 | Val Verde | Rural |
| 234 | Van Zandt | Rural |
| 235 | Victoria | Urban |
| 236 | Walker | Rural |
| 237 | Waller | Urban |
| 238 | Ward | Rural |
| 239 | Washington | Rural |
| 240 | Webb | Urban |
| 241 | Wharton | Rural |
| 242 | Wheeler | Rural |
| 243 | Wichita | Urban |
| 244 | Wilbarger | Rural |
| 245 | Willacy | Rural |
| 246 | Williamson | Urban |
| 247 | Wilson | Urban |
| 248 | Winkler | Rural |
| 249 | Wise | Urban |

| County Code | County Name/ Description | Rural/Urban |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 250 | Wood | Rural |
| 251 | Yoakum | Rural |
| 252 | Young | Rural |
| 253 | Zapata | Rural |
| 254 | Zavala | Rural |