

# Questions and Answers (Q&A)

## California Farm to Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Survey for Family Child Care Providers

### 1. What is the California Farm to CACFP Survey for Family Child Care Providers?

The California Farm to CACFP Survey for family child care providers is a new survey that will be distributed every 2–3 years to identify the prevalence of Farm to CACFP activities occurring among family child care providers, to assess interest in Farm to CACFP activities, and to identify what training and resources may be needed.

### 2. What is the Farm to CACFP Initiative?

The [Farm to CACFP Initiative](#) is comprised of three elements:

- Purchasing local foods,
- Providing nutrition and agriculture-based education, and
- Providing hands-on learning in an edible garden.

Participation in the Farm to CACFP Initiative **is not required** but highly encouraged to enhance the well-being of participants in care. These activities are considered best practices.

### 3. Are family child care providers required to take this survey?

No. It is optional.

### 4. How will the survey be distributed to family child care providers?

The CACFP Branch will send Day Care Home Sponsoring Organizations (DCH Sponsors) an email they can forward to their family child care providers. The email will include an introductory paragraph and a link to the survey.

### 5. Is the survey in languages other than English?

Yes. The survey is offered in both English and Spanish. Family child care providers will have the option to select English or Spanish when completing the survey.

6. Who should family child care providers talk to if they have questions?

Family child care providers should contact their DCH Sponsor if they have questions. If the DCH Sponsor is unable to answer the question, the DCH Sponsor should contact the Farm to CACFP Team at [Farm2CACFP@dss.ca.gov](mailto:Farm2CACFP@dss.ca.gov). The Farm to CACFP Team can follow up with either the sponsoring organization or the provider directly.

7. How long will it take a family child care provider to complete the survey?

It should take a family child care provider less than 10 minutes to complete the survey.

8. Who will get the results of the survey?

The CACFP Branch will develop a final report and post it to the [Farm to CACFP Data](#) web page.

9. Is it anonymous?

Yes. The survey does not ask for name, phone number or email address. It asks family child care providers to select the county they reside in.

10. What plans does the CACFP Branch have related to training family child care providers on Farm to CACFP activities?

The CDSS CACFP Branch plans to develop training and resources specifically for family child care providers in the future; however, there is an abundance of resources available now. Please see the list below:

- **CDSS California Farm to CACFP Initiative:** For more information about the California Farm to CACFP Initiative, visit the [CDSS California Farm to CACFP Initiative](#) web page, where you can find:
  - [Farm to CACFP Tip Sheets](#) by program type. These tip sheets include information about Farm to CACFP, why Farm to CACFP is important, and includes a fun activity you can do with children and adults in care.
  - [Resources and toolkits](#) to connect Early Care and Education (ECE) providers to nutrition education, gardens, local farms, and farmers markets.
  - [Nutrition and agriculture-based education resources](#), such as the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) “Grow It, Try It, Like It” toolkit for preschool aged children. This toolkit is a garden-themed nutrition education kit that features MyPlate and introduces children to different

fruits and vegetables.

- **CDSS Preschools SHINE Program:** This is a voluntary, statewide recognition program that showcases the outstanding work of ECE sites in California that support the health and well-being of young children. Please visit the [CDSS Preschools SHINE Program](#) web page to see if your site qualifies as a Preschool SHINE site or if you would like to learn more.
- **Farm to ECE Community of Practice Webinars:** In partnership with the California Department of Public Health and the California Department of Food and Agriculture, the CDSS CACFP Branch co-hosts Farm to ECE Community of Practice webinars. During the webinars, guest speakers share best practices and practical ways to implement Farm to CACFP into your program. For more information, please visit the [California's Farm to CACFP Initiative](#) web page.

11. How can I get more information about the California Farm to CACFP Survey for Family Child Care Providers?

If you have questions, DCH Sponsors can email the Farm to CACFP Team at [Farm2CACFP@dss.ca.gov](mailto:Farm2CACFP@dss.ca.gov).