



The study would examine the dietary intakes of a nationally representative sample of children in child care centers, including Head Start sites. Using Automated-Multiple Pass Methodology (AMPM) examining food intake in the previous 24-hour period, the study will examine food consumption among young children in CACFP-sponsored child care centers, and conduct nutritional analyses of the foods.

FNS plans to have peer review of the final report. Particularly, peer reviewers will have expertise in:

- 1. Research questions, study design and analysis methods.** Reviewers will be requested to determine if (i) the data collection as implemented was appropriate, (ii) whether the analyses as carried out reflect the original plans and (iii) whether the analyses are appropriate given the actual implementation of sampling and data collection.
- 2. Nutrition standards and their application.** Reviewers will be requested to assess the completeness and accuracy of the report's evaluation of the nutritional quality of all foods consumed by children in child care settings as compared to the recommendations in the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

All peer reviewers will be informed that the Agency does not have funds to make changes that require additional data collection, reconsideration of the research design, or significant modifications to data collection and analysis methods. The reviewers will be informed that the Agency, while it will welcome recommendations that may improve the design of future studies of nutrition and wellness quality in child care, requires an evaluation of the current product that is cognizant of the funding constraints.

Each reviewer will be instructed to supply the results of their review in written form. Because the study results are considered influential scientific information, reviewers will be informed that the Agency is required to make available to the public the written charge to the peer reviewers, the peer reviewers' names, the peer reviewers' report(s), and the agency's response to the peer reviewers' report(s).