

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Dept. of Education's Food Distribution Program Ends on June 4, Modified Resumption Expected During Summer Months (Update)

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The Virgin Islands Department of Education will conclude its “No V.I. Child Goes Hungry” Feeding Initiative on June 4 — the official day of the close of the 2019-2020 school year, the department has announced.

The feeding initiative is expected to resume during the summer months, but in a modified format, according to Assistant Education Commissioner Victor Somme III who oversees the program. Employees who prepare and distribute meals are contractually obligated to work for 10 months, with two months off during the summer, according to D.O.E.

Since its start on March 26 — a week following the closure of the territory's public-school buildings due to COVID-19 — thousands of breakfast and lunch meals have been served to Virgin Islands school-aged children, including those attending private and parochial schools, D.O.E. said.

The department said details of the resumption of the "No V.I. Child Goes Hungry" Feeding Initiative will be released at a later date.

Correction: June 4, 2020

The Department of Education on Wednesday issued a correction to its release, stating that the end of the feeding program is June 4 and not June 5 as the department had previously said. The story has been updated.