Monthly Update

Summer Food Service Program

August 4, 2026

Distributed to SFSP Authorized Representatives and posted at https://cnw.ksde.gov, SFSP, SFSP Monthly Updates

Important Updates, Reminders, & Deadlines

Thank You for a Great Summer 2026!

As we wrap up SFSP operations for 2026, the KSDE Child Nutrition & Wellness team extends our gratitude for your dedication in providing nourishing meals to children in Kansas. You are truly appreciated and play a vital role in addressing food security in our communities. We encourage you to share your success stories by using the hashtag **#FuelingKSKids** or by emailing any member of our team. Thank you for all your hard work this summer! We look forward to collaborating with you in 2027.

SFSP Reimbursement Claim Reminders

Original and upward revisions are due within 60 days of the end of the claiming month. For the summer months, these deadlines are as follows:

- June claim due by 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, 08/29/2026
- July claim due by 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, 09/29/2026
- August claim due by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, 10/30/2026

Please note that voucher dates are not dependent on or altered by claim due dates. Vouchers are typically posted on the first and third Tuesdays of each month between 8 and 9:30 a.m. This allows direct deposit payments to be made on Fridays, as posting of vouchers is a four-business day process before payment is received via ACH direct deposit (if ACH is not set up, physical checks are mailed on Thursdays of the vouchering week). Site and Sponsor Claims in "Approved" status by 8 a.m. on each applicable Tuesday will be batched and paid that corresponding Friday. Multiple claims can be paid in one batch. For questions regarding claims or meal reimbursement payments, please contact Dessa Gifford, Public Service Administrator for School Finance, at (785) 296-4965 or dessa.gifford@ksde.gov.

Accurate Site Applications

Please ensure all site applications accurately reflect the end dates for meal service. KSDE is still submitting meal service site information to USDA, and we want to make certain we provide the most accurate data possible. If you have any questions regarding the site applications, please reach out to your child nutrition consultant or call the Child Nutrition & Wellness office at (785) 296-2276.

Cyclospora Outbreak Updates

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in collaboration with state and local partners, continue to monitor a multistate outbreak of *Cyclospora* infections. At this time, FDA's traceback investigation and outbreak data continue to converge on iceberg lettuce from Taylor Farms de Mexico. Food service operators should continue to avoid all products listed in Taylor Farms' voluntary recall, which was sent to KSDE listservs on July 20.

There is currently no recommendation to discontinue serving other types of fresh produce that are not subject to the recall. KSDE will provide updates if there is an expansion of the recall or identification of another food as a possible source of *Cyclospora* infections. Food service staff should continue to follow all standard food safety practices.

Sponsors are encouraged to follow updates on the outbreak, which are available from the FDA at Investigation of 9-State Outbreak of Cyclospora Illnesses: Iceberg Lettuce and from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) at Cyclosporiasis Surveillance Data.

USDA Updates

2026 Turnip the Beet! Awards & Nomination Packet

USDA's Food and Nutrition Administration is pleased to share the 2026 Turnip the Beet! Nomination Packet. The Turnip the Beet! Award recognizes outstanding Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option sponsors across the nation who work hard to offer children high-quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious during the summer months. This recognition supports Agriculture Secretary Rollins' commitment to encouraging healthy choices, healthy outcomes, and healthy families. Nominations must be sent by the State agency to the appropriate FNA Regional Office no later than October 2.

Order USDA Team Nutrition Materials

Team Nutrition encourages schools, summer meal sites, and child care organizations to place orders of print materials by August 14, 2026. Please note that several print materials will be retired after August 17, 2026, and it's uncertain which items will remain available for printing going forward. Ordering now helps programs prepare for future activities and ensures they have the resources they need for the upcoming season. For all bulk orders, please email Team Nutrition at TeamNutrition@USDA.gov.

If you have questions or need technical assistance, please contact your child nutrition consultant or call the Child Nutrition & Wellness office at (785) 296-2276.

For more information, contact:

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