

# Monthly Update



## School Nutrition Programs

April 2, 2020

*Distributed to School Nutrition Program Authorized Representatives and Food Service Directors via Email*

### Child Nutrition Programs Income Eligibility Guidelines

The Child Nutrition Programs Income Eligibility Guidelines are used in determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals and free milk. The Federal Register Notice published the guidelines for the period from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 on March 20, 2020:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/03/20/2020-05982/child-nutrition-programs-income-eligibility-guidelines>

### Proposed Rule: Simplifying Meal Patterns and Monitoring Requirements in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP)- Comment Period Extended

The purpose of this proposed rule is to provide several meal pattern flexibilities in the NSLP and SBP to make it easier for local program operators to administer the Programs and to reduce the burden for State administering agencies that are responsible for conducting administrative reviews of Sponsors. All Sponsors are encouraged to read the Proposed Rule at

<https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=FNS-2019-0007>.

Submit comments by April 22, 2020:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Send comments to School Programs Branch, Policy and Program Development Division, USDA Food and Nutrition Service, P.O. Box 2885, Fairfax, VA 22031.

**Please note:** The Proposed Rule does not change any current Child Nutrition Program requirements. Any changes would be implemented in a Final Rule.

### School Breakfast Waivers – Requests Due April 17

Eating breakfast is one of the best ways to ensure students are healthy and able to achieve their full potential. All Kansas public schools are required by State law to participate in the School Breakfast Program unless they meet the certain criteria and receive an annual waiver from the Kansas State Department of Education. Waiver Request forms for SY2020-2021 can be requested by contacting Arleen Anderson at [aanderson@ksde.org](mailto:aanderson@ksde.org) or 785-296-2276 and are due by April 17.

### Food Safety Inspections

All Sponsors are required to have two food safety inspections each year. If you have not received two (2) inspections by May 1, 2020, you must send a letter to the Kansas State Department of Agriculture (KDA) requesting the needed inspection(s). The date the letter is sent must be recorded on the Site Application during Program Renewal. The annual license fee now covers the costs of the two required inspections. A sample letter is available at [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), Food Safety. Remember that the most recent KDA inspection must be printed and posted in a location visible to the public.



### **Request to Use Online Application for Child Nutrition Program Benefits – Webinar Recording Now Available**

Any Sponsor wishing to use an online free and reduced application to determine benefit eligibility must complete and submit to KSDE the Request to Use Online Application for Child Nutrition Program Benefits (available at [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), School Nutrition Programs, Food Service Facts, Chapter 7 Related Forms) annually. The webinar recording is available at <https://learning.ksde.org>, Child Nutrition & Wellness, Webinars. If you have questions, contact Julie Henry at [jhenry@ksde.org](mailto:jhenry@ksde.org).

### **Summer Meals Program Outreach**

All Sponsors are **required** to conduct outreach for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO). If the Sponsor is not implementing the SFSP or the SSO in their school, consider communicating the link to the site locator tool that is available on-line at [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), Summer Food Service Program, Locate a Site Near You, or post the link on the school website. Households can also **text “Summer Meals” to 97779** to find Summer meal sites. Both of these options will assist families in finding a location to receive free meals as needed.

### **Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program**

The application to apply to participate in the Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program (FFVP) for school year 2020-21 is available at [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program. The FFVP provides all children in participating elementary schools with a variety of free fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the school year. It is an effective and creative way of introducing fresh fruits and vegetables as healthy snack options. Participation in the FFVP is limited to elementary schools, with priority given to schools with the highest percentage of students eligible for reduced price or free school meals.

To apply for the FFVP, complete the application and return it to KSDE no later than May 15, 2020. Schools selected to participate will be notified in July 2020. Participating schools will be reimbursed for their documented expenses on a monthly basis. If you have any questions, please contact Emily Brinkman at [ebrinkman@ksde.org](mailto:ebrinkman@ksde.org).

### **Scheduling Body Venture for SY2020-21**

Body Venture is KSDE’s traveling health education exhibit for students in grades K-5. Each year this exciting exhibit visits approximately 100 schools and helps students learn why it is so important to “Eat Smart. Play Hard.” Requests to schedule Body Venture for SY 2020-21 are being accepted and must be received by April 17. The request form is available at [www.bodyventure.org](http://www.bodyventure.org), Schedules.

### **Spring Reminders**

We will be happy to post free-of-charge advertisements for child nutrition job openings and food service equipment for sale. Email your advertisements to Pam Rosebaugh at [prosebaugh@ksde.org](mailto:prosebaugh@ksde.org).

Please let your area consultant know of upcoming **retirements** so Child Nutrition & Wellness can recognize them with a letter and certificate.



## Professional Development Opportunities

### Online Professional Development Classes and Tutorials

CNW staff continue to develop new interactive online training classes and tutorials that can be accessed free of charge 24/7 via the KSDE Training Portal. The professional development classes offer a certificate upon successful completion which can be printed. Tutorials are 5 minutes or less with no quiz and no certificate. Create an account now at <https://learning.ksde.org> and see the entire list of classes and tutorials available. For detailed instructions on creating an account and accessing the training, go to [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), School Nutrition Programs, Training.

### Program Renewal Webinar

Plan now to attend the SY2020-21 Program Renewal Webinar. Information will be provided about changes to the sponsor and site applications, updated forms, and new guidance for SY 2020-21. Join this webinar on Monday, May 18 at 2:00 pm. Go to <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/811203631>.

### Administrative Update – Webinar and Online Options for SY2020-2021

SY2020-21 Administrative Update will be offered via webinars and through online modules. You will be able to choose the option that best meets your needs. Per your requests, targeted webinars will be available for Sponsors of Multiple Child Nutrition Programs (receive the updates for SNP and CACFP in one webinar) and RCCIs. Topics will include new policy guidance for SY 2020-21, Annual Civil Rights Training, Confidentiality, and Procurement.

In-depth Determining Eligibility and Verification training will also be offered in separate webinars over the summer months. **Watch for webinar dates and links in an upcoming update.** Remember, the authorized representative or designee is required to complete administrative training annually. We recommend the Determining Official attend the Determining Eligibility Webinar Training and the Verification Official attend the Verification Webinar training.

### Food Safety Basics Online Professional Development

KSDE will offer live online delivery of the Food Safety Basics class through Zoom on Tuesday, May 19, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. To attend the live online event, link to <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/768132868> on the date/time of the event.

The 3-hour Food Safety Basics class can also be accessed free of charge 24/7 via the KSDE Training Portal. Create an account at <https://learning.ksde.org>. For detailed instructions on creating an account and accessing the training, go to [www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org), School Nutrition Programs, Training. In addition to Food Safety Basics, there are other on-demand trainings that can be accessed on the KSDE Training Portal.

### Serving Safe Meals During COVID-19 and Emergency Preparedness & COVID-19

Join KSDE for a Zoom webinar, **Serving Safe Meals During COVID-19**, on Tuesday, April 7, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. This training will help child nutrition program supervisors provide basic food safety guidance to the many people who are helping with meal services to children during this pandemic. A Question & Answer session at the end of the webinar will cover questions program staff have had in regard to both food safety and personal safety in this unique situation. To attend the live online event, link to <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/172244932> on the date/time of the event.



Join KSDE for a Zoom webinar, **Emergency Preparedness & COVID-19**, on Thursday, April 9, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. This training will help nutrition programs supervisors work with administrators, State agencies, and local agencies to further prepare for contingencies during this public health crisis. To attend the live online event, link to <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/889537521> on the date/time of the event.

### Together We Are Stronger

Sincere thanks to all who are feeding children during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been heart-warming to see the extra efforts throughout the state. Please contact us if there is anything we can do to assist. Please share pictures and social media posts that capture the impact you are making in the lives of children at **#FuelingKSKids**.

As always, if you have questions or need technical assistance, please contact your area Child Nutrition Consultant or the Topeka office staff by email or leave a message on the Topeka office phone and we will return your message promptly!

### Cheryl, Jill and Julie



For more information, contact:

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 Director, Child Nutrition & Wellness  
 (785) 296-2276  
[www.kn-eat.org](http://www.kn-eat.org)  
[csjohnson@ksde.org](mailto:csjohnson@ksde.org)

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