

Monthly Update



School Nutrition Program

January 28, 2022

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

Town Hall Tuesdays at 2 on February 8th

Join us for Town Hall meetings on February 8th at 2:00 pm at this link:

<https://ksde.zoom.us/j/93001580396?pwd=ZlliMTVuemh3d0VoVU80aGVQcmPuZz09>. Agenda items for the February Town Hall will be: Supply Chain Assistance Funds, Wellness Wednesdays and any new guidance received from USDA.

Updated Seamless Summer Option Reimbursement Rates - Effective January 1st

Waiver authority allows the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) reimbursement rates for meals and snacks served through the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option for SY2021-22. Summer Food Service Program Reimbursement Rates are updated annually. Rates increased effective January 1, 2022 and are posted at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Reimbursement Rates.

Supply Chain Assistance Funds – ACTION REQUIRED

To assist School Food Authorities (SFAs) experiencing supply chain disruptions, USDA Food and Nutrition Service has allocated Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) Funds made available through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and authorized under the CCC Charter Act [15 U.S.C. 714]. The funding allocation for each Kansas SFA includes two components: a base payment of \$5000 and a proportional funding amount based on each SFAs share of statewide enrollment (based on 9/20/21 headcount data). Authorized Representatives for each Kansas Sponsor were emailed important information this week including:

- An Attestation Form indicating the funding allocation,
- USDA Policy Memo SP 03-2022 Allocation of Supply Chain Assistance Funds to Alleviate Supply Chain Disruptions in the School Meals Programs and
- Attachment A which answers frequently asked questions.

SCA Funds cannot be dispersed until the Attestation Form has each attestation statement initialed, is signed and dated (either physically or digitally) and then scanned to KSDE Child Nutrition and Wellness via email to cnw@ksde.org no later than January 31, 2022.

SCA Funds must be deposited in the federal food service account; however, it is not required to account for these funds separately within the non-profit school food service account. SFA's are required to maintain documentation supporting food purchases that are allowable SCA purchases and equal in amount received, consistent with the regular program recordkeeping requirements. When the funds are received (estimated mid-February), please record on Line 8- Federal Grants of the Monthly/Annual Financial Report in KN-CLAIM and deposit in C024 Food Service as 4590 Other Federal Aid.

For questions, please contact Cheryl Johnson at csjohnson@ksde.org or Pam Rosebaugh at prosebaugh@ksde.org or call us at 785-296-2276.



Frequently Asked Questions from Kansas Sponsors

Q. Do purchases with Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) Funds have to be tracked separately, such as with a spreadsheet and copies of invoices highlighting items?

A. No, purchases do not have to be tracked separately in the food service fund but Sponsors are required to maintain documentation supporting food purchases that are allowable SCA purchases and equal in amount received, consistent with regular program recordkeeping requirements.

Q: Are local beef processing fees an allowable expense of Supply Chain Assistance Funds?

A: Yes, beef processing fees are an essential incidental cost in the purchase of beef; therefore, Supply Chain Assistance Funds can be used to cover the cost of beef processing fees for beef used as part of the School Meal Program.

Q. Can Sponsors who are contracting with a Food Service Management Company (FSMC) or from another School Nutrition Program Sponsor receive SCA Funds?

A. Yes, USDA has confirmed that School Nutrition Program Sponsors that contract with a FSMC or are in a Sponsor to Sponsor contract can receive the SCA Funds. Sponsors can use the funds to pay their bills as negotiated in the agreement.

Q. How long do Sponsors have to expend these funds?

A. SCA Funds must be spent by September 30, 2023.

Q. Can we take the SCA Funds if we currently have processed foods such as chicken nuggets on the menu?

A. Yes. By signing the Attestation Statement, the Sponsor agrees that they will purchase unprocessed foods at least in the amount of the grant award but this does not require all processed foods to be taken off the menu.

Virtual Wellness Workshops in February – Wellness Wednesdays

Join KSDE each Wednesday in February for Wellness Wednesdays to assist Kansas schools in implementing wellness policies and creating a healthier school environment. Each Wednesday in February two identical 1-hour virtual sessions will be offered at both 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Attendees must pre-register to attend! Attendees who register and attend all four sessions will receive a Colorful Feed Poster Set, containing 5 unique posters. Participants will receive a certificate of participation for each session they complete which can be used for proof of professional development. Recordings of each of the weekly wellness Wednesday sessions will be available in the KSDE Training Portal at a later date for those unable to attend live!

- **February 2: Local School Wellness Policies: Regulations and Resources**

Gather the information and resources necessary to bring wellness committees back together stronger! Participants will learn about the importance of local school wellness policies and the state and federal laws and regulations regarding wellness policies. Resources, tools, and best practices for meeting wellness policy requirements and building strong wellness policies will be reviewed, and participants will also see a live demonstration of the updated Wellness Impact Tool in KN-CLAIM. **Register to attend at <https://ksde.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMud-mspzwsG9MxK3X9kUqEvMZHCPO7Jwy->**



- **February 9: Nutrition Education**

Explore FREE nutrition education resources that can be used to move your school's wellness policy initiatives to the next level! Learn about virtual Body Venture and an accompanying elementary thematic unit centered around science, nutrition and fitness. Hear how Farm to Plate connects schools through gardening and local farms with the objective of serving healthy school meals and educating students about where their foods comes from by using local products. Explore Team Nutrition curriculum, training and resources available from USDA. Discover Culinary Training to assist school nutrition professionals and families in preparing and serving more whole grains, local protein and dairy and fresh produce. **Register to attend at https://ksde.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlsd-6vrD8qGta0nZtFjOyL90YM_4ki97Bk**

- **February 16: Mental Health: Food and Mood – Understanding Science & Evaluating Evidence**

Hear from guest Speaker, Dr. Amanda Zangrillo, PsyD, BCBA-D, an associate professor and department director of the Severe Behavior Program at the Munroe-Meyer Institute at the University of Nebraska Medical Center to learn decision-making strategies and critical evaluation skills around the dynamic interplay of nutrition and behavioral health for school-aged youth. Participants will learn how to discern pseudoscientific practices from evidence-based practices when addressing physical wellness as part of a mental health treatment plan. **Register to attend at https://ksde.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqd--tqj4pHdU4UGP6dtSLpp7ToEd14_jY**

- **February 23: Motivational Interviewing**

Learn how motivational interviewing techniques can be used to intervene and help school age children become motivated to change addictive behaviors that are preventing them from making healthier choices. Dr. Elly Leavens, Research Assistant Professor in Population Health at Kansas University Medical Center, who serves as the chair of the Youth Vaping Task Force, Discipline and Cessation subgroup and whose research investigates mechanisms that contribute to tobacco use and tobacco-related health inequities will be joined by Alicia Jackson, School Counselor at Olathe West High School in the Olathe School District and 2018 Kansas Counselor of the Year to present the fourth and final wellness Wednesday session. **Register to attend at <https://ksde.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMufu2grTgsHtP3KDQGD1kLM7FLxFW-bmLx>**

Annual On-site Accountability Reviews

The School Food Service On-Site Accountability Review (Form 9-G) can be accessed online at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, Food Service Facts, Chapter 9. **By February 1, Sponsors implementing the National School Lunch Program including the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) with more than one serving site must review each site approved to participate in the National School Lunch Program at least once per year and review 50% of all sites approved to participate in the School Breakfast Program once per year. Someone not involved in the daily meal accountability procedures at the site must conduct the On-Site Accountability Review. Keep completed reviews on file with school food service program documents for review or audit. Each on-site review must ensure the school's claim is based on the counting system, as reported on the site application, and yields the actual number of reimbursable meals served for each day of operation. If the review discloses problems with a school's meal counting or claiming procedures, the Sponsor must ensure that the school implements corrective action, and within 45 days of the review conduct a follow-up on-site review to determine that the corrective action resolved the problems. **These reviews can be completed via desk audit this year due to COVID Waiver flexibility.****



FSMC Renewal Training on April 5th – Save the Date

Sponsors that are planning to renew their FSMC Contract for the 2022-23 school year should plan to attend the FSMC Renewal Training scheduled for Tuesday, April 5 from 9:30 am-10:30 am. This training will discuss the contract renewal process as well as remind sponsors of their contract monitoring responsibilities. To access this training, use the following link <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/86320736730?pwd=MWRGeHZKSTI1bTMwV2VKTVRlenhQUT09>. A recording of the training will be made available for Sponsors unable to attend the live training.

Request to Use Electronic Transactions in Child Nutrition Programs

Sponsors who wish to use an online Free/Reduced application in the 2022-2023 school year must complete the Request to Use Electronic Transactions in Child Nutrition Programs form (will be located on the checklist tab in KN-CLAIM). A webinar explaining the Online Application review process will be held in early March. Watch for the date and ZOOM link in the February Update.

Free Online Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals

A USDA Technology Grant has made it possible for KSDE Child Nutrition & Wellness to develop an Online Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals. It will be available free of charge to sponsors to use for the 2022-2023 school year. More details regarding the online application system will be provided, including a demonstration, at a Tuesday Townhall in March.

Increase Participation with the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

For more information or to find out if CEP would be a good choice for your school, please contact Julie Henry at jhenry@ksde.org.

Summer Food Service Program Outreach

All Sponsors are required to conduct outreach for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). If the Sponsor does not have the SFSP in their school, consider posting a link to the site locator tool that is available on-line at www.kn-eat.org, Summer Food Service Program, Locate a Site Near You on the school website or providing the link on a flyer to send home with students. This would allow families to find a location to receive free meals at sites across Kansas.

National School Breakfast Week: Get Ready to Take Off with School Breakfast

National School Breakfast Week (NSBW) takes place March 7-11, 2022! This year's theme, *Take Off with School Breakfast*, reminds parents and stakeholders that a healthy school breakfast helps ensure students' academic success in school so they can "take off" and reach their goals. [Learn More](#)

Download Logos and Artwork

Get started with NSBW artwork! Use these images on menus, social media, in newsletters and on your website. To request artwork and logos, just complete the [short online form](#). You can instantly download the logos and receive additional image links via email.

New Feature Alert for the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs Mobile App!

A new feature is now available on the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (FBG) Mobile App. Team Nutrition appreciates receiving your comments on the FBG and works continuously to enhance the user experience. Team Nutrition is excited to announce that users can now view the meal pattern requirements per meal component for a selected Program and age/grade group while using the FBG Calculator on both the Web Tool and Mobile App. This feature allows for easy access to helpful meal pattern guidance to assist in creating shopping lists.



Professional Development Opportunities

Don't miss any of the amazing upcoming training opportunities. Go to www.kn-eat.org, CNW Calendar to view all scheduled classes – class descriptions, dates, times and ZOOM links. Upcoming trainings available in February through Zoom include: Working Safe, Food Safety Basics and February Culinary Corner.

Kansas turns 161 years old on January 29th! Celebrate Kansas by learning more about sorghum. Kansas is the nation's leading producer of sorghum. Join CNW for the February Culinary Corner: Going Gluten-Free with Sorghum on February 23rd at 2 pm to learn about gluten-free menu options using sorghum flour and whole sorghum grain. Sorghum is more than a gluten-free grain, it is a versatile grain that can be incorporated into grain bowls, soups, baked items and more. You won't want to miss this innovative culinary opportunity! Join the culinary corner at <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/88298247075?pwd=ZU8zZGhoSVEvRjlBM3FpeTBNOWIFQT09>

Wondering what sorghum is? Make sure to watch the January Quick Bite featuring sorghum available at: https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLd_2hYclboc_QUbcdjw6GfQP7i2Zv2MHM

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. 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, School Nutrition Programs, Training. New to the portal this month: Jump Start for Managers and Meal Modifications.

Save the Date: The Rural Child Hunger Virtual Summit – April 27-28, 2022

The goal of the 2022 Rural Child Hunger Summit presented by No Kid Hungry and Save the Children is to highlight the resiliency of rural communities through their innovative and adaptive programs. The Summit will identify promising practices and policy levers that amplify the impact of nutrition assistance programs and reduce rural child hunger. More information to come on session details and how to register for this free event.

Farm to School- Using Local Foods to Alleviate Supply Chain Obstacles – Important Survey

The Kansas Farm to School Team would like to learn more about local food purchasing in Child Nutrition Programs across Kansas so they can work to find solutions to the obstacles that are preventing farmers and schools/early childhood education centers from working together to strengthen local food markets. This team will be providing training opportunities for all stakeholders across the state that are involved in what is commonly referred to as Farm to School. The answers from this survey will help inform this team on how to develop these trainings so that they reflect the actual needs of our state. Please click the following link to complete the SFA survey: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_da80lgV1LRiF5au. Your answers are needed by April 4, 2022. We greatly appreciate your time and input!

Renewed Focus on Wellness in 2022

Over the past two years focus has been on fulfilling day-to-day student wellness needs (i.e. meeting nutrition needs, emotional needs, social needs as they've been affected by the pandemic). Join us for Wellness Wednesdays and look toward the future with a "renewed focus" on advancing wellness policies and creating healthier school environments.



With sincere appreciation for your unchanging passion for Child Nutrition. It is clear that the best interest of our students and serving safe, delicious quality school meals remains our constant in Kansas!

Please call or email your area child nutrition consultant or the Topeka office with any questions or if we can assist in any way.

Cheryl, Jill and Julie



For more information, contact:

Cheryl S. Johnson
Director, Child Nutrition & Wellness
(785) 296-2276
www.kn-eat.org
csjohnson@ksde.org

Kansas State Department of Education
900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212
(785) 296-3201
www.ksde.org

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