

Monthly Update



School Nutrition Programs

March 28, 2023

Distributed to the School Nutrition Program Authorized Representatives Listserv and the Food Service Directors Listserv and posted at <https://cnw.ksde.org>, SNP, What's New.

Important! Community Eligibility Provision Notification Reporting Required

Using **April 1** data (March 31 data can be used since April 1 is a Saturday), **ALL SPONSORS** except RCCIs are **required** to:

- Go to <https://cnw.ksde.org>, KN-CLAIM, SNP, Program Year 2023, Forms, Community Eligibility Provision Notification to enter the required data.
- Enter the total number of students Directly Certified for the entire Sponsor (Include Food Assistance, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Foster and Medicaid Free from the Direct Certification list, as well as students certified as Migrant, Homeless, Runaway, Head Start or Even Start, and Non-applicants approved by local officials. Do not include Medicaid Reduced.)
- Enter the number enrolled with access to school meals for the entire Sponsor. Do not include virtual students or students that attend a half day without access to a meal.
- After entering the Sponsor information, click "Save" to calculate and display the percentage of Identified Students. The appropriate checkbox will indicate if the Sponsor is eligible or potentially eligible to participate.
- Next, enter each site's number of Directly Certified and enrollment with access to school meals by clicking on the edit pencil next to each site's name.
- Click the blue save icon to calculate, display the percentage of Identified Students and SAVE the site information. The appropriate checkboxes will indicate the eligibility status for each site.
- Data must be entered by **April 15** so that a list of Sponsors and Sites eligible to participate can be provided to USDA.
- Sponsors with at least one site eligible to elect participation in the Community Eligibility Provision will be notified and provided detailed information.
- Current deadline to elect the Community Eligibility Provision is June 30, 2023.

Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans – Comments Due by April 10

Based on the latest nutrition science and extensive feedback from our school meals partners, USDA's Food and Nutrition Service is proposing updates to the school nutrition standards in a few key areas to give children the right balance of nutrients for healthy and appealing meals. The proposed updates reflect the goals of the most recent *Dietary Guidelines*, as required by law, and build in plenty of time for planning and implementation to ensure the school meals community and the children they serve are set up for success.

This proposed rule – *Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans* – is the next step in an ongoing effort toward healthier school meals that USDA and the broader school meals community have been partnering on for well over a decade. More information about the proposed rule can be found at:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/proposed-updates-school-nutrition-standards>



- A comparison chart on the proposed standards for schools can be found at: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/school-meal-standards-comparison-chart>
- The recording of the webinar, “*Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Proposed Rule*” is now available on the Food and Nutrition Service’s Website at: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/webinar-revisions-meal-patterns-consistent-2020-dietary>
- Comments on the proposed rule can be submitted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/02/07/2023-02102/child-nutrition-programs-revisions-to-meal-patterns-consistent-with-the-2020-dietary-guidelines-for> and follow the online instructions for submitting comments. The public comment period is expected to close on **April 10, 2023**.

Town Hall Tuesday at 2

Plan now to join us on April 18 at 2:00 pm for the latest guidance and updates at:

<https://ksde.zoom.us/j/84920437369?pwd=dXgrdE5ickp6VWVHRTFWbkowN0FJUT09>. The agenda will include Summer Meals Q&A, New USDA Guidance, CEP Proposed Rule Comment Period, New Body Venture Exhibit, Farm to School Bus Tours, Summer Harvest of the Month, Local Foods for Schools Grant, Summer Professional Development Opportunities, SNP SY2023-24 Program Renewal, and more.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement (NDS) Update on Sponsors’ Websites

The USDA Nondiscrimination Statement is no longer available as a separate page on the new Child Nutrition & Wellness website, so sponsors must post the NDS on their own website and not just link to the CNW website main page.

USDA Guidance

SP 06-2023 – Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023: Effect on Child Nutrition Programs

This memorandum provides clarification on how the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, P.L. 117-328, impacts the Child Nutrition Programs.

Prohibition on the Use of Chicken from China In Section 751, of Division A of the

Appropriations Act: Consistent with the terms of the Appropriations Act, this memorandum provides notice to CNP operators that Program funds may not be used to procure raw or processed poultry products from the People’s Republic of China. This legislation extends the existing prohibition through September 30, 2023.

Crediting of Starchy Vegetables In Section 740, of Division A of the Appropriations Act:

Congress provides that school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) may credit any vegetable offered, including potatoes and other starchy vegetables, in place of fruit without including vegetables from other subgroups in the weekly menus. This legislative flexibility is effective for school years (SYs) 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, providing additional flexibility for SFAs in planning breakfast menus. SFAs are not required to make any menu changes.

Compliance with Paid Lunch Equity Requirements Under Section 752, of Division A of the Appropriations Act:

For SY 2023-2024 any SFA with a positive or zero balance in its nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2022, is exempt from paid lunch equity pricing requirements found at 7 CFR 210.14(e) for SY 2023-2024. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) will be providing additional guidance for SFAs that are required to comply with the paid lunch equity provision during SY 2023-2024 including an updated PLE Tool,

**Renaming of the Farm to School Program Under Section 777, of Division A of the**

Appropriations Act: Congress changes the name of the USDA Farm to School Program, authorized in Section 18(g) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 USC 1769(g), to the “Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program”. This change is effective immediately and requires no action by CNP operators.

Establishment of a Noncongregate Meal Service Option in the SFSP Under Section 502, of

Division HH of the Appropriations Act: Congress amends Section 13 of the NSLA, 42 USC 1761. to establish a noncongregate meal service option in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) for rural areas. This option will be available beginning in summer 2023. FNS will issue guidance with implementation models that States may use in summer 2023. Interim final regulations implementing this option must be issued by December 29, 2023.

Establishment of a Permanent Summer EBT Program Under Section 502, of Division HH of the

Appropriations Act: Congress establishes a permanent Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children Program (Summer EBT) beginning in summer 2024. Summer EBT will provide EBT benefits on an ongoing basis to low-income children during the summer months to ensure continued access to meals and snacks when school is not in session.

SP 07-2023 – Unique Entity Identifier Transition

This memorandum provides guidance to local Program operators as they transition to use of the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). OMB directed federal agencies to complete system transitions from use of the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) to the UEI on April 4, 2022. Obtaining the UEI is necessary as Federal award recipients (e.g., State agencies) may not make a subaward to subrecipients (e.g., CNP institutions, facilities, sponsoring organizations, sponsors, and schools) without the entity obtaining the UEI.

School Breakfast Waivers

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 certain criteria and receive an annual waiver from the Kansas State Department of Education. Waiver Request forms for SY2023-2024 can be requested by contacting Arleen Anderson at aanderson@ksde.org or 785-296-2276 and are due by April 14.

Seamless Summer Option (SSO) or Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) 2023

Summer Meals Programs are designed to fill the nutrition gap that occurs in summer and make sure children can get the nutritious meals they need. Many sites provide not just meals, but educational, enrichment and recreational activities that help children continue to learn and stay safe when school is not in session. Summer meals act as a “magnet” to draw children to activities and activities draw children to summer meals. Meals can be served at a variety of locations, including schools, camps, parks, recreation centers, YMCAs, Head Start Centers, Community Action Agencies, Boys and Girls Clubs...and many other places.

Now is the time to sign up or renew as a Summer Meals Sponsor. For questions about the SFSP or the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for School Nutrition Program (SNP) Sponsors only, a Summer 2023 Comparison Chart has been developed to assist Sponsors to explain options and is posted at <https://cnw.ksde.org>, SNP, SNP What’s New. Contact our office at 785-296-2276 or your area KSDE child nutrition consultant to discuss options for Summer 2023. **SFSP applications are due May 1.**



SFSP Administrative Training on March 30

Are you planning to offer summer meals through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) this summer? If so, join us March 30 from 1:00-4:00 pm for SFSP Administrative Training Summer 2023 via live zoom at <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/84916411910?pwd=Q2lidVErYTVuTjB1WTg0cUdocVp3Zz09>. For those unable to make the live training, a recording will be made available on the KSDE Learning Portal at a later date. All new and returning Sponsors must have at least one representative complete administrative training in order to operate the SFSP in Summer 2023.

Summer Food Service Program Outreach

All SNP Sponsors are required to conduct outreach for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). If the Sponsor does not have the SFSP sites, consider posting a link to the site locator tool that is available online at <https://cnw.ksde.org>, SFSP, SFSP 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 for their children ages 1 to 18 at sites across Kansas.

Summer Meals Text Numbers and Hunger Hotline

The automated texting service which connects families to local summer meal sites is 914-342-7744. The USDA National Hunger Hotline number is also available. Individuals can call 1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE to speak with a representative who will find food resources such as meal sites, food banks, and other nearby social services. Parents and caregivers can also text the word "FOOD" or "COMIDA" to 304-304 to find the nearest meal sites through the No Kid Hungry Hotline.

Administrative Review Results Available

The results from Administrative Reviews are posted at www.ksde.org, Data Central, Child Nutrition & Wellness Reports, Administrative Review Findings, and Administrative Review Commendations.

Request to Use Electronic Transactions in Child Nutrition Programs

Sponsors who wish to use an online Enrollment & Income Eligibility Form or accept electronic signatures on any child nutrition form including the Consent for Disclosure, must complete the Request to Use Electronic Transactions in Child Nutrition Programs form located on the checklist tab in KN-CLAIM. A webinar explaining the review process will be held on March 28 from 9-11 am. Join at <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/86361201646?pwd=eVlPRDd0dVBqUkFwQmZSSXp1UTISUT09> Passcode: 504527

FSMC Renewal Training – April 5th

Sponsors that are planning to renew their FSMC Contract for the 2023-24 school year should plan to attend the FSMC Renewal Training scheduled for Wednesday, 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/88000490290?pwd=bDBkK0s2OHpqbUkxZmNMVkw2SGIPQT09>. A recording of the training will be made available for Sponsors unable to attend the live virtual training.

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 announcing the guidelines for the period from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 was published on February 9, 2023. They are available at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/02/09/2023-02739/child-nutrition-programs-income-eligibility-guidelines>.



Kansas Online Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals

The Kansas Online Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals will be available free of charge to sponsors to use for the 2023-2024 school year. Sponsors opting to use the Kansas Online Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meals are not required to complete the Request to Use Electronic Transactions in Child Nutrition Programs form. For more information, view the tutorial on the KSDE Learning portal at <https://learning.ksde.org>, Child Nutrition & Wellness, Tutorials, School Nutrition Programs (SNP) Tutorials or contact Karen Campbell at kcampbell@ksde.org.

Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program

The application to participate in the Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program (FFVP) for school year 2023-24 is available at <https://cnw.ksde.org>, SNP, SNP What's New. 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 19, 2023. Schools selected to participate will be notified in July 2023. Participating schools will be reimbursed for their documented expenses on a monthly basis. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Seymour at 785-296-1473 or kseymour@ksde.org.

Purchasing Cooperatives

Are you looking for ways to navigate supply chain challenges and save money in your Child Nutrition Program? A purchasing cooperative may be the answer. For more information about purchasing cooperatives in Kansas, contact your area Child Nutrition Consultant or the Topeka office.

Afterschool Snack Program (ASP)

Sponsors participating in the ASP must review each site two (2) times per year. The first review must occur during the first four (4) weeks that the site is in operation each school year and the second review must be completed at some point during the school year. Use the Afterschool Snack Program On-Site Monitoring Form for documenting ASP site reviews. The form can be found at <https://cnw.ksde.org>, SNP, Food Service Facts, Chapter 26, Related Forms.

Professional Development Update

Don't miss any of the amazing upcoming training opportunities. Go to <https://cnw.ksde.org>, Training, CNW Calendar to view all scheduled classes – class descriptions, dates, times and ZOOM links.

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 <https://cnw.ksde.org>, Training. New to the portal: 2023 Wellness Wednesdays: 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2023 Wellness Wednesdays: Feeding Children with Food Allergies, and 2023 Wellness Wednesdays: Student Substance Use in Kansas, and the KSDE Child Nutrition & Wellness New Website Tutorial.



Available in Print! School Breakfast Photo Props

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative is excited to share that printed copies of the [School Breakfast Photo Props](#) are now available. Schools can use these colorful props to add fun and excitement to school breakfast events during National School Breakfast Week, as well as other activities or celebrations throughout the school year. Each kit includes 40 fun images of breakfast foods, comment bubbles, and signs printed on perforated cardstock. Schools participating in USDA's Child Nutrition Programs can request free print copies while supplies last, at <https://pueblo.gpo.gov/TN/TNPubs.php?PubID=15628>.

Shop Kansas Farms Extravaganza – April 29th

The next Shop Kansas Farms Extravaganza will be in Lyons on Saturday, April 29, 2023, 9 am to 3 pm at the Celebration Centre and Bar K Bar Arena, 1145 E HWY 56, Lyons, KS. Vendors from across the state will be selling beef, pork, poultry, eggs, and more! This is your chance to connect with producers and ranchers for local food sources. Find information at: <https://shopkansasfarms.com/lyons-market-of-farms>

Summer Education Opportunity for Students from Kansas Corn

The Kansas Corn STEM program is excited to offer the “Summer Scientist: Does Corn Need Light?” lab. Each summer this kit is available to Kansas educators and volunteers, who are leading summer education programs. The free supplies and resources are provided to help you teach your children about agriculture in a fun scientific way. April 14th is the deadline to request kits for summer 2023. Please submit your request early. To request materials, login at <https://kscorn.com/latest-login-page/> to register and create an account.

Spring Reminder

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

Kansas Nutrition Council Conference

The Kansas Nutrition Council Annual Conference 2023 will be held April 27 at the Wichita State University Marcus Welcome Center. Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/554882357067>. Did you know that KNC offers mini-grants for nutrition-related educational projects? If you or your organization is interested in applying for a mini-grant, email Valerie Donelan at vdonelan@ksde.org to receive an application for submission.

Spring Thoughts

When we say child nutrition professionals are heroes, we truly mean it! Plan now to celebrate this spring on May 5, 2023, during School Lunch Hero Day. This annual observance is a chance to showcase what a difference school nutrition professionals make in the lives of Kansas children. Plan now to recognize the efforts of your team who provide healthy meals to students - not only preparing the food but also serving it - with a smile and kind word, encouraging students to try new foods and get all the nutrients their growing bodies need.

**Celebration ideas:**

- Ask teachers to have classes make cards for foodservice staff.
- Surprise your team by decorating the cafeteria.
- Give your team a shout out on social media. Share how each team member is an important part of the team.
- Hang signs around the school celebrating the school nutrition staff.

As always, if you have questions or need technical assistance, please contact your area Child Nutrition Consultant or the Topeka office!

Cheryl, Karen, and Kelly

For more information, contact:

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