

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CHILD AND ADULT CARE

3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING
EDUCATION, EXERCISE AND EATING RIGHT

Food Program

July 2023 Monthly Newsletter

Technical Assistance

Have questions, need information or assistance?

- Visit the [TX-UNPS training page](#) to access training videos, the TX-UNPS User Manual and additional training resources.
- Call (877) TEX-MEAL or email CACFP.BOps@texasagriculture.gov
- (877) TEX-MEAL (Se habla Español)



Invitation for Bid (IFB) Prototypes Updated

The Invitation for Bid (IFB) prototypes for both CACFP and SFSP were updated to include full Civil Rights assurance statements from FNS Instruction 113-1. Additionally, in accordance with 7 CFR Part 225.6(l)(7), the SFSP IFBs added that either party could terminate the contract for convenience with a 60-day advance notification.

The CACFP IFB prototypes [can be found here](#).

MENU Module Not Supported after August 31

TDA will not support MENU Module after August 31, 2023. Find MENU Module Q&A document for offboarding and options for CEs after contract period ends on www.Squaremeals.org/MENUmodule. Please send any additional questions to your regional Education Service Center.

Remaining COVID-19 Flexibilities and Keep Kids Fed Act Provisions Expired June 30, 2023

All waivers and flexibilities associated with the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and the Keep Kids Fed Act (KKFA) of 2022 expired June 30, 2023. These include the end of higher KKFA reimbursement rates, the end of area eligibility waivers for Tier II day care home providers, waivers of onsite monitoring requirements, non-congregate flexibilities tied to COVID-19 outbreaks, Local Wellness Policy triennial assessment deadline extensions, and TDA's discretion to not issue fiscal action in the event of a supply chain disruption. Click the headline for details.

SquareMeals COVID-19 Page Retired

With the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency, TDA has retired its dedicated COVID-19 page. Materials and resources (for example, FAQs and webinar links) have been moved to other locations. Click the headline for details and links.

Updates to Civil Rights Nondiscrimination Statement

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has updated the required Nondiscrimination Statement on their website to include a link to the new USDA Complaint Form. However, there has been no formal announcement about the change. Until further official notice from FNS to begin updating materials, no updates are currently required, although TDA will be including the newer version as resources are updated. TDA will provide further instructions once the new NDS is officially announced.

Now Available! Crediting Grains in the Child Nutrition Programs Tip Sheets!

Crediting Grains in the Child Nutrition Programs Tip Sheets are the last three in the series of seven tip sheets. They provide guidance on crediting grains in a quick reference format for Program operators across all Child Nutrition Programs and are broken down into three topics:

- Part 1: Creditable Grains in Child Nutrition Programs
- Part 2: Identifying Grain Products that are Whole Grain-Rich
- Part 3: Program Requirements

Each tip sheet has its own question-and-answer section. Program operators are encouraged to use these resources to provide guidance and training.

Check out the first four tip sheets in the series (Crediting Fruits, Crediting Vegetables, Crediting Meats/Meat Alternates, and Crediting Fluid Milk) at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/crediting-tip-sheets-child-nutrition-programs>. The entire tip sheet series will be available for print at a later date. Click the headline for more information.

Child Care Providers: Take a Nationwide Survey!

Are you a childcare provider or sponsor? The Harvard T.H Chan School of Public Health is conducting a nationwide survey to gather the experiences of what makes it hard and easy for child care programs to participate in CACFP. [Take the survey here.](#)

CACFP Salary Increase Guidance

Minimum CACFP Protocol Threshold Salary Increase Guidance for Staff and General Office Positions addresses individuals in lower pay job categories that may receive a higher rate of pay increase. Click [here](#) for more information.



Learn your Mission at

CACFP LIVE!

The topic for August is "Take the CACFP AR from Mission Impossible to POSSIBLE!" starting at 10 a.m. on August 9. Join in to learn and prepare for critical areas of the review process - [Register with your ESC!](#)



Fun Quizzes to Test your Nutrition Knowledge!

Are you an expert on Infant Nutrition, Milk in the CACFP, or Older Adults Nutrition? [Test your skills with Team Nutrition quizzes here!](#)

MegaCon Presentations and Handouts on SquareMeals



Presentation slides and resources from the MegaCon sessions are now available [here](#) on SquareMeals. Use the links to access these materials and provide valuable feedback.

Special Diet presentation slides and resources curated from the MegaCon classes are now available on SquareMeals for NSLP and CACFP. See the links below:

- [MegaCon Special Diets Presentation Slides](#)

- [NSLP Special Diet Handout](#) (under Training Resources header): includes resources, trainings, and recipes
- [NSLP Special Diet Swap](#) (under Meal Planning Resources header): includes menu planning activity with answer sheet
- [CACFP Special Diet Handout](#) (under Training Resources header): includes resources, trainings, and recipes
- [CACFP Special Diet Swap](#) (under Menu Planning header): includes menu planning activity with answer sheet

Deadlines

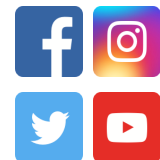
[Review This Month's Program Calendar Due Dates!](#)

For upcoming deadlines, see the Program Year Calendar.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

This product was funded by USDA.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



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