

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SUMMER MEAL

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

February 2024 Monthly Newsletter



Register for MegaCon 2024

Registration has begun for MEGACON - TDA's annual comprehensive training event for federal nutrition programs! Registration has already topped 450 people. A hotel room block is available for our attendees. Join in this fun and educational event May 14-16 in Austin. Don't be late - **register TODAY!** Visit **SquareMeals.org** for more information.

SFSP 2024 Reimbursement Rates Now Published on SquareMeals

The Summer 2024 reimbursement rates for SFSP have been posted on SquareMeals. Please see the **Reimbursement Rates for Summer Meal Programs** page for more information.

Accessing Required SFSP Training

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) training is required for all Contracting Entities (CEs) this year. There are several options to receive training online and

in person. Visit [SFSP-Training on SquareMeals](#) for more information and dates for ESC training opportunities. Renewing CEs must complete the SFSP training prior to the initial TX-UNPS renewal application submittal. If the training cannot be verified by TDA upon application submittal, the application will be returned and will not be reviewed until the SFSP Annual Training has been verified. SFSP Annual Training is required for everyone listed on the Contracting Entity Application that is noted as responsible for the food service.

RELEASE: SFSP and SSO Rural Non-Congregate Service Regulations

**HEALTHY
SUMMER
MEALS
FOR KIDS**

USDA issued an Interim Final Rule at the end of December outlining the new regulations allowing SFSP and SSO operators in rural areas to provide non-congregate meal service to participants. Stay tuned to the newsletters and SquareMeals.org for more information on how to apply!

Program Email Contacts

Use the following email contacts for technical assistance related to federal nutrition programs in partnership with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

- Child and Adult Care Food Program:
CACFP.BOps@TexasAgriculture.gov
- National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Seamless Summer Option, Special Milk Program, and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program: NSLP-SBP.BOps@TexasAgriculture.gov
- Summer Food Service Program: SFSP.BOps@TexasAgriculture.gov

Technical Assistance and Support - ESCs

Invaluable program support is provided by the Education Service Centers (ESCs). These dedicated professionals work closely with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Food and Nutrition Division to ensure that Contracting Entities (CEs) have the resources they need to excel while adhering to state and federal regulations. For more information about the Education Service Centers, [click here](#).

Reminder for TX-UNPS and WBSCM entities

Entities can now assign two User Access Managers/User Admins to manage security in TX-UNPS/WBSCM systems. *Click the headline or details.*

New Features and Food Yields in the Food Buying Guide Web-Based Tool

The Food Buying Guide has been updated with new foods and features, including an interactive flow chart on using the preparation yield and an ounces-to-pounds calculator.

RELEASE: NEW Duplicative Services FAQs

TDA has released a set of FAQs related to duplicative costs. A duplicative cost is an unallowable expense that results from a Contracting Entity (CE) paying for the same service under multiple contracts using federal funding.

Management Plan Now in TX-UNPS

As part of our ongoing efforts to streamline processes, the SFSP Management Plan is now integrated into the TXUNPS platform.

Who Needs to Complete the Management Plan? Completion of the SFSP Management Plan is a requirement.

Accessing the SFSP Management Plan: To access and complete the SFSP Management Plan, please log in to the [TXUNPS platform](#). Detailed instructions and resources are available within the platform to guide you through the process.





TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER
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Texas Department of Agriculture | P.O. Box 12847, Austin, TX 78711

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