TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

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

November 2026 Monthly Newsletter

Join Us for the December School Call!

Please join the Texas Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition team for the next monthly school call on **Wednesday, December 2 at 2 p.m.**

Click here to join the meeting for the latest TDA updates related to policy, USDA Foods, school operations, and more. The webinar ID is 894 7669 0159.

The invitation link for each month is available on the following SquareMeals pages:

• The **SquareMeals homepage** under "**Quick Links**".

• The **Program Year Calendar page** under the **December table.**

• The **NSLP Resources page** on SquareMeals under the "**Webinars**" section towards the bottom of the page.

The 2027 Program Calendar is Ready!

The 2027 Program Calendar is now available. Please refer to **the Program Calendar webpage** for important updates, deadlines, and resources for NSLP, CACFP, FDP or SFSP.

USDA Foods Inventory and Contract Management

Ensure you are organizing your current storage space and monitoring your inventory in conjunction with your menu planning. If you have any questions regarding your menus and/or inventory, contact your Education Service Center (ESC) representative.

As a reminder, keep your USDA Foods inventory levels below 6 months on hand (MOH) to

maintain compliance with the NSLP for SY27. Monitor your Best-If-Used-By Dates, Expiration Dates, and Pack Dates to maintain optimal inventory quality.

Ensure all invoices are paid within 30 days of receiving your inventory/private storage fees.

TDA has been reviewing the SY27 Private Storage reports from all FDP Regions and has instructed State Contracted Warehouses to force-ship inventory that has been sitting for over 45 days to your sites. Please place your delivery orders accordingly.

School Year 2026-2027 Verification Reporting Timeline

The School Year **2026-2027 Verification Reporting Timeline** has been released. The Verification Report opened on November 2, 2026.

Attachment B Uploads

Attachment B Uploads opened in TX-UNPS on July 1, 2026, and closed on October 31, 2026. SFAs that have not completed the Attachment B Upload module in TX-UNPS by October 31, 2026, will receive corrective action.

Click here to view the full article.

Pledge for Healthier School Meals Toolkit

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has released a toolkit to support the pledge for healthier school meals, which includes a checklist and seven tip sheets that provide actionable strategies, menu ideas, school success stories, and implementation activities focused on the key pledge areas.

Click the headline title to view the **full article**.

USDA FOODS - Transfers and Usage Analysis Exercises

The transfer window remains open from September 1 through April 15 for requests that meet inventory and usage criteria. TDA will be conducting the Usage Analysis Exercise from December 1 through December 30 for accounts below 20% usage.

Click the headline title to view the **full article**.

2027 USDA Farm to School Census

2027 USDA Farm to School Census - This census is conducted every 4 years and will be launching again in May 2027 based on activities completed during school year 2026-2027. This census is incredibly important in learning how local foods and agricultural education are being

used in schools across the country. For more information and resources, visit **USDA's Farm to School page**.

We will provide additional updates throughout the school year.

USDA Foods Ordering Updates

November's important USDA Foods updates for schools include FFAVORS reminders, delayed materials, and Squaremeals resources, along with ESC support.

Click the headline title to view the **full article**.

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

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