

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

# CHILD AND ADULT CARE

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

## March 2022 Monthly Newsletter

### Events, Trainings and Resources

#### Monthly Newsletter Survey. We Want to Hear Your Feedback!

Please take some time to participate in our TDA Monthly Newsletter survey. We would like to gain insight into your experience when reading and receive the newsletter(s) so we can make any needed improvements. [Click here](#) to access the survey.



#### Deadline for MegaCon Registration Approaching

Join TDA for this multi-program mega conference in Austin, May 2-6. You'll get updates on regulations and guidance, interact with peers and TDA staff, attend interactive training sessions, and find new ways to achieve program success! The deadline for registration is April 27th, 2022!

#### Upcoming CACFP LIVE! Sessions

ESCs offer monthly training for CEs through CACFP Live. Upcoming CACFP LIVE! Sessions ENROLLIN' DOWN THE RIVER! Enrollment and Eligibility Documents in the DRP May 11, 2022. WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO? June 8, 2022. More details about the sessions and registration information can be found by clicking the title link.

#### Transitional Standards Webinar Recordings Now Available!

The Transitional Standards for Milk, Sodium, and Whole Grains webinar recordings are now available on the FNS Website! The link to Webinar for School Food Authorities, can be found by clicking the title link.

## **Coming Soon: New Applications Pages on SquareMeals.org**

In the next couple of months, you may notice changes on the TX-UNPS Bulletin board. All application related updates currently posted on TX-UNPS will be transitioned to SquareMeals.org. Also, going forward there will be a new Applications page located under the **CACFP** "Program" tab on SquareMeals.org. The new Applications page will contain useful information for current CEs regarding application deadlines, resources and latest news updates. A direct link to the Applications page on SquareMeals.org will be placed on the TX-UNPS bulletin board for easy access..

## **Four Steps to Food Safety: Clean, Separate, Cook and Chill**

Clean: Wash hands and surfaces often.

- Wash hands with warm water and soap for 20 seconds. Tip: Sing the "Happy Birthday" song twice.
- Clean and sanitize food preparation surfaces, chopping boards and kitchen utensils.
- Rinse produce under running water. Wash fruits and vegetables even if you are going to peel them. If you cut unwashed produce, bacteria on the surface can get inside.
- Download the [CLEAN factsheet](#) and share with staff.

## **Pledge now to participate in the CACFP Farm Fresh Challenge!**

In March of each year, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) hosts the Farm Fresh Challenge for all TDA contracting entities (CE) in the Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP). The Challenge is a fun and engaging way for nutrition professionals to gain recognition for their efforts to bring local foods and garden-based activities to program participants. [Click here](#) to Pledge!

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## **Deadlines**

### **Review This Month's Program Calendar Due Dates!**

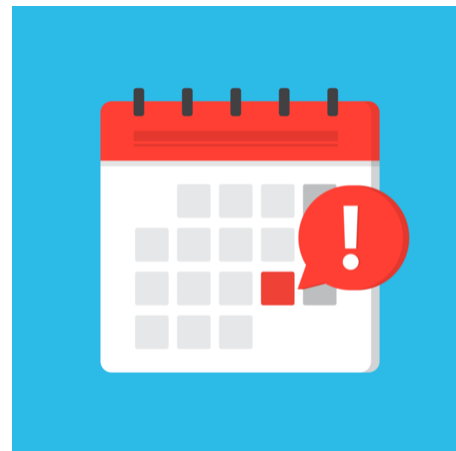
For upcoming deadlines, see the Program Year Calendar.

### **Claim Deadline Reminder**

February and March claims are due. Claim deadline for February is April 29th. Don't delay, submit claims timely!

### **Security Form FND-101 to be removed from SquareMeals.org**

TDA has fully transitioned to the User Access Manager for all entities and plans to remove the FND-101 form on SquareMeals.org effective 5/1/2022..



## **Policy Updates and**

# Compliance Reminders

## Administrative Reviews Notification

Effective June 1, 2022, TDA F&N will no longer consider Administrative Reviews (ARs) due for review based on the program cycle and program requirements for cancellation/postponement due to COVID impacts. Please contact your local Education Service Center representative for technical assistance; you may also email [Community.Ops@Texasagriculture.gov](mailto:Community.Ops@Texasagriculture.gov) to request technical assistance.



## Monthly Highlights

### Turnip the Beet 2021 Texas Award Recipients

Congratulations to our sixteen Turnip the Beet winners! These sponsors have earned USDA's award for going the extra mile in 2021 to provide nutritious and appealing summer meals.

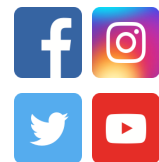


**Make sure you read every monthly newsletter for important information, opportunities and events!**



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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