

SUMMER MEAL

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

July 2022 Monthly Newsletter

Events, Trainings and Resources

[Approved Sites and Sponsors Summer Outreach Materials now available - Order Today!](#)

The Summer Meal Programs provide healthy and nutritious meals after the school year ends to children 18 years and younger and enrolled students with disabilities up to 21 years old. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has developed no-cost, online resources and printed materials you can use to promote the availability of these meals for families in need. Make sure you are utilizing new materials this year. Please visit www.SummerFood.org/OutreachTools to order no-cost, print materials today!

REMINDER: The old texting number is no longer valid. The new text line is 304-304. If you have leftover materials with any other texting number other than 304-304, they are old and must be recycled.

[Turnip the Beet Summer Meals Resource](#)

With summer well under way, TDA created this resource to showcase best practices and success stories from our 2021 Turnip the Beet winners. The application for 2022 is not due until September 23, [we hope you apply!](#)

Turnip the Beet is a national award that recognizes sponsors who work hard to offer high quality and nutritious meals during the summer months so that children have continuous access to nutritious food when school is out. Take a look at our 2021 winners and their meal ideas that you could implement!

[New! Food Buying Guide Mobile App Training Videos!](#)

Team Nutrition is excited to announce that training videos on navigating the Food Buying Guide (FBG) Mobile App are now available. These short videos are broken into four chapters to provide users with step-by-step instructions on using the Mobile App and its different components.



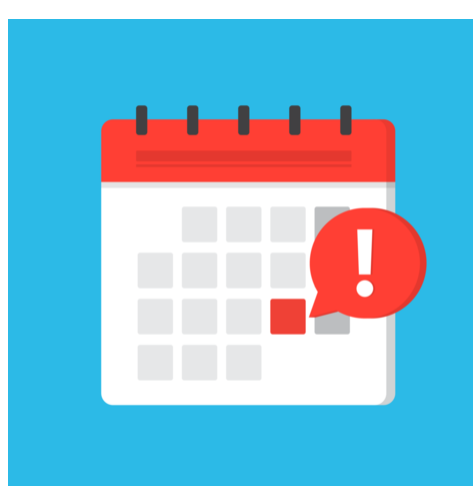
Deadlines

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

For upcoming deadlines, see the Program Year Calendar.

[Claim Deadline Reminder](#)

May and June claims are due. Claim deadline for May is July 30th. Don't delay, submit claims timely!



Policy Updates and Compliance Reminders

[Non-congregate Feeding, Offsite Monitoring, and Other Flexibilities Now Available!](#)

Per the recently passed Keep Kids Fed Act (KKFA), TDA can now use its approved statewide waivers to allow all SFSP and SSO sites to resume non-congregate service, no child/parent pickup, and offsite monitoring flexibilities without those waivers being related to a specific COVID-19 event. Other flexibilities will be available soon as well.



[Program Updates](#)

TDA will conduct unannounced meal observations/site visits for PY22 SFSP administrative reviews. All TDA employees will identify themselves with a TDA/State of Texas issued identification.

[New Guidance on the Collection of Racial/Ethnic Data](#)

Based on guidance from USDA, TDA has developed Questions and Answers pertaining to the collection of racial and ethnic data at open Summer and At-risk sites now that visual observation is no longer an allowable option for collecting this data. These questions and answers will be included in the SFSP and CACFP FAQs located on SquareMeals.org and will eventually be included in the Program handbooks. The FAQs are located [here](#).

[Civil Rights Training Migrating to ICN](#)

Effective May 15, 2022, the annual Civil Rights training that meets USDA Child Nutrition Program requirements as mandated in FNS Instruction 113-1 will be provided through the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) rather than TDA. New users must register with ICN, and ICN will issue completion certificates. Starting May 15, links to the online training and instructions for taking ICN classes can be found [here](#).

[SFSP Administrative Review Lessons Learned](#)

An updated version of the SFSP Administrative Review Lessons Learned is posted to SquareMeals. Click the title to view.

[TX-UNPS FDP Upgrade Coming in 2023/2024](#)

The ordering functions in the TX-UNPS FDP module for NSLP and SFSP will transition to USDA's Web-Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) system.

Monthly Highlights

[Now Accepting 2022 Turnip the Beet Recognition Award Nominations](#)

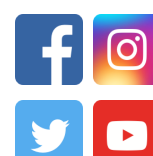
The Turnip the Beet Award recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors serving appetizing, appealing, and nutritious meals. For more resources, including 2022 nomination forms, visit [the Beet](#) page. Guide and deadlines, visit TDA's Turnip the Beet page.



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



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER
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