

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

# NATIONAL SCHOOL

3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING

EDUCATION, EXERCISE AND EATING RIGHT

*Lunch Program*

## January 2022 Monthly Newsletter

### Events, Trainings and Resources

#### New School Year 22-23 Menu Calendar Templates are Now Available!

TDA's creative new menu calendar templates for August 2022 - July 2023 include the new theme "Get Your Day in Gear with a Healthy School Meal." Child Nutrition Departments should utilize the templates to inform and engage students and families about school meals and other activities in the school year. This is the new theme that will be utilized for celebrations throughout the 22-23 School Year.



#### MegaCon 2022 – Registration Coming Soon

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!

#### TDA Concludes the Fall Farm Fresh Challenge

89 Texas schools completed their pledge to serve more Texas products to children and teach them about local agriculture. Through this challenge, more than 10.2 million dollars were spent on local foods. Districts that completed the challenge will receive recognition in the new year! To learn more about the Farm Fresh Challenge, visit [SquareMeals.org/FarmFreshChallenge](https://SquareMeals.org/FarmFreshChallenge).

#### New feature alert for the Food Buying Guide Interactive Web-based Tool

Team Nutrition is excited to announce that users can now view the meal pattern requirements per meal component for a selected Program and age/grade group while using the FBG calculator. This feature allows for easy access to helpful meal pattern guidance to assist in creating shopping lists.

#### New feature alert for the Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool

New features are now available on the Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool (PSTTT). With the new update, users can now record trainings for past school years.

## **[New Limited English Proficiency \(LEP\) tool](#)**

The U.S. Department of Justice's Federal Title VI Interagency Working Group (IWG) – Limited English Proficiency Committee has developed a new tool to improve access to websites and digital platforms for individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP): Improving Access to Public Websites and Digital Services for Limited English Proficient (LEP) Persons.

## **[Order Copies of the Guide to Professional Standards for School Nutrition Programs](#)**

The updated Guide to Professional Standards for School Nutrition Programs is now available to order in print from Team Nutrition. This resource provides State and local school nutrition professionals a comprehensive guide to all Professional Standards topics.

## **[New Team Nutrition Meal Components Web Quiz](#)**

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative is excited to announce the release of the Meal Components web quiz. This quiz is now available and focuses on meal components and meal pattern requirements for all Child Nutrition Programs.

## **[Student Art Contest – On Your Mark, Get Set, Draw!](#)**

The Texas Department of Agriculture's (TDA) You Art What You Eat art contest is accepting entries! Encourage your students enter today! If you ordered promotional materials to share with students, shipments will arrive this month. Click here for more information about the art contest, digital resources, and to submit an entry.

## **[School Breakfast Week 2022 – Material Update!](#)**

Due to the national paper shortage TDA was unable to print the floor decal this year, and quantities of other materials were limited. If you ordered promotional materials they will begin shipping in late January and may arrive over the following weeks in separate shipments. If you were unable to order SBW materials, [click here](#) for digital resources.

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## **Deadlines**

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

For upcoming deadlines, see the Program Year Calendar.

### **[Claim Deadline Reminder](#)**

November claims are due by January 29th. Don't delay, submit claims timely!

### **[2022 Texas Summer Mandate Notification and Waiver](#)**

Submit your intent for summer 2020 or submit a mandate waiver request in TX-UNPS by the January 31, 2022 deadline.

### **[School Food Authority \(SFA\) Verification Collection Report Due February 1](#)**



CEs must report verification results in the School Food Authority (SFA) Verification Collection Report, FNS-742 by February 1, 2022.

### [Onsite Monitoring Due February 1](#)

CEs that operate more than one site are required to conduct onsite reviews. Click for more information.

### [Transitioning to the User Access Manager](#)

TDA will begin a full transition to the User Access Manager for all entities and will retire the FND-101 form in Spring of 2022.

## Policy Updates and Compliance Reminders

### [Low-Fat \(1%\) Flavored Milk: Congressional Flexibility Extended through February 18, 2022](#)

Due to recent Congressional action, the flexibility allowing low-fat, flavored milk in the NSLP and SBP is extended through February 18, 2022. This flexibility was previously scheduled to end December 3. Schools do not need to request a meal pattern waiver from TDA to use this flexibility. Additional information on meal pattern flexibilities is available in the [COVID-19 FAQ for School Year 2021-2022](#).



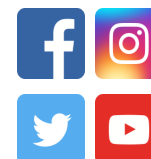
### [RELEASE: Revised Administrator's Reference Manual \(ARM\) Section 18, Food Service Contracts](#)

A revised ARM Section 18, Food Service Contracts was posted to SquareMeals.



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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