

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SUMMER MEAL

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

Programs

March 2026 Monthly Newsletter

[Get Ready for MegaCon 2026!](#)

Commissioner Sid Miller and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) invite you to attend MegaCon 2026 — in Waco, Texas, April 6–8, 2026.

With a new location, a new layout, and a new emphasis on networking with Texas agricultural producers, MegaCon 2026 brings new connections and new opportunities for a Texas-sized Farm Fresh experience.

Organizations participating in the TDA-administered federal nutrition programs and TDA's Farm Fresh initiatives will join us for three days of collaboration, learning, and engagement.

Make plans now to connect with TDA and your colleagues from across the state! For registration details and access to group GSA hotel rates, please visit the [official MegaCon website](#).

Click the headline to view the [full article](#).

[2026 Summer Non-Congregate Feeding Webinar Now Available!](#)

On February 18, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) hosted the Summer 2026 Rural Non-Congregate Feeding Program Overview webinar, which covered the requirements, flexibilities, updates, and resources associated with rural non-congregate feeding during Summer 2026. This presentation and the accompanying presentation slides are now available for viewing on the [Summer Non-Congregate Feeding Program page of SquareMeals](#).

[New Guidance and Resources on Incorporating Local Beef into Meals](#)

USDA Food and Nutrition Service has issued new memo SP 03-2026, CACFP 02-2026, SFSP 02-2026, Incorporating Local Beef into Child Nutrition Program Meals, which provides helpful resources and strategies for Child Nutrition Program (CNP) operators and ranchers to incorporate local beef into meals. Resource topics cover procurement, funding resources, food safety, crediting, and technical assistance contacts from the Farm to School Program.

The full memo can be found [here](#).

[USDA Releases New Guidance on New Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2025-2030](#)

On January 7, 2026, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2025-2030 (Guidelines). USDA strongly encourages child nutrition program operators to familiarize themselves with the key recommendations and consider how these Guidelines can be incorporated into program meals and snacks to promote healthy outcomes and healthy families.

Click the headline to view the [full article](#).

[FRESH TRAYS Local Procurement Training](#)

This advanced training is designed for child nutrition operators participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Summer Meals Program (SMP), and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) who are interested in purchasing local foods and supporting Texas agriculture. This in-person training will be held at your Education Service Centers - Visit [SquareMeals](#) for upcoming trainings.

[Join Us for the March TANS Talk!](#)

[Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 12 from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. \(CDT\)!](#)

TANS Talk is an office hours session that will allow Organizations (formally known as CEs) to review TANS related updates. We are excited to share all of the new updates about this platform and answer any questions.

How to Participate in TANS Talk:

Use this [TANS Talk Feedback Form](#) to submit any TANS questions you would like to see reviewed during the call. We will cover questions received at least 48 hours prior to the call, allowing our team time to prepare for the meeting. Visit the [TANS homepage](#) and [Resources page](#) for access to past TANS Talks, updates, trainings, and more.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER



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This product was funded by USDA. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



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