TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SUMMER MEAL Programs

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

September 2026 Monthly Newsletter

Resources for Procuring Local Foods in School Year 2026-2027

USDA Food and Nutrition Administration (FNA) is pleased to announce the release of memo TA 01-2026, Resources for Procuring Local Foods in School Year 2026-2027, located on this **website**.

This memo reminds schools, sponsors, and institutions participating in any USDA Child Nutrition Program (CNP) of the various resources available to help CNP operators procure local foods. This initiative is part of a new Harvest to Hallways campaign and supports USDA's commitment to supporting local food procurement and efforts to Make America Healthy Again.

Midweek Webinar Series – New Session Added!

Join TDA's Midweek Webinar Series as we add new sessions designed to strengthen your knowledge and skills. Each session will keep you actively involved from start to finish, all while you earn USDA Professional Standards Training hours without ever leaving the office.

Register Here: **Training Best Practices: Common Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them**

October 7, 2026 | 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. (Central Time) via Microsoft Teams Webinar

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Final Rule: Simplified Geographic Preference Procurement in Child Nutrition Programs

USDA recently published the Direct Final Rule: Simplified Geographic Preference Procurement in Child Nutrition Programs, which provides clarifying guidance related to local procurement. The

rule does not change current policy; rather, it clarifies existing regulations to include implementation guidance related to local procurement and geographic preference previously issued via policy memos.

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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

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