

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



NATIONAL SCHOOL

3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING

EDUCATION, EXERCISE AND EATING RIGHT

Lunch Program

August 2022 Monthly Newsletter

Events, Trainings and Resources

[Join the Farm Fresh Challenge this October!](#)

TDA will host the Farm Fresh Challenge from October 1-31, 2022. The Challenge is a fun and engaging way for nutrition professionals and school administrators to earn recognition for their efforts to bring Texas-grown food and garden-based learning to their schools. Take the pledge today!



[Register Now for Team Nutrition Meal Talk: Local School Wellness Policies Webinar on 8/17](#)

On Wednesday, August 17, USDA's Team Nutrition initiative will present a Meal Talk webinar on Local School Wellness Policies. This webinar will be held from 2 to 3 pm Central Time.

[Get Your Day In Gear: National School Lunch Week 2022!](#)

It is almost time to Get Your Day in Gear with a Healthy School Lunch during National School Lunch Week (NSLW) 2022. Schools can support lunch participation using the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) theme and resources. Order your NSLW materials from TDA at no cost today on the National School Lunch Week SquareMeals Webpage or click the title above. Quantities are limited. A list of schools/staff who have already placed orders for NSLW 2022 materials can be found by [clicking here](#). This list was pulled at 11:30 am on 7/25/22. If you placed your order after this date and time you will not be on the list. Digital materials also available for download.

[School Nutrition Programs Procurement Review Lessons Learned](#)

The SNP Procurement Review Lessons Learned is posted to SquareMeals.org. Click the title to view.

[Child Nutrition Photo Collection Access](#)

Update your training materials or media campaigns with professional photos from Team Nutrition's photo albums. Team Nutrition's photo collection now includes 350 original photographs that can be used in nutrition education and training materials for CACFP operators. Photo albums that might be especially useful for the CACFP include Food Portions, Child Care Recipes, Handwashing, and Infant Nutrition. For school nutrition programs there are albums for school breakfast, school lunch and smart snacks.

[Now Available! Tip Sheet on Crediting Meats/Meat Alternates in Child Nutrition Programs!](#)

This handy reference for Program operators across all Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs) is a simple and easy-to-use resource that highlights the basics of crediting for the meats/meat alternates component.

[Back-to-School Toolbox from the Institute of Child Nutrition](#)

The Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) has prepared the Back-to-School Toolbox for returning, new, and aspiring school nutrition professionals. In the Back-to-School Toolbox, you can plan professional development for you and your staff using ICN's toolbox, conveniently organized by staff categories: Frontline Staff, Managers, Menu Planners, and Directors. Each category provides links to ICN Trainings, iLearn Online Courses, Virtual Instructor-Led Training (VILT) opportunities, and ICN Resources for download.

[NEW! Fueling My Healthy Life Nutrition Education for 7th and 8th Grade Students](#)

USDA's Team Nutrition is excited to announce the release of new Fueling My Healthy Life nutrition education for 7th and 8th grade students. This standards-aligned and inquiry-based collection of educational resources is designed to engage middle school students using a variety of learning styles.

[Updated brochures now available from Team Nutrition!](#)

Three Team Nutrition brochures have been updated and are now available online, including the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (FBG) brochure, the Professional Standards for School Nutrition Professionals brochure, and the Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool (PSTTT) brochure.

Deadlines

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

For upcoming deadlines, see the Program Year Calendar.

[Claim Deadline Reminder](#)

June and July claims are due. Claim deadline for June is August 29th. Don't delay, submit claims timely!



Policy Updates and Compliance Reminders

[RELEASE: Multiple Sections of the Administrator's Reference Manual \(ARM\)](#)

Update Guide sections located at the beginning of each ARM section provide more information about the topics addressed in each release. Click the title above for more information. You can find the ARM [here](#).



[Calculation of Adult Meal Prices in SY 2022-2023](#)

For School Year 2022-2023, schools should calculate their adult meal prices using the base NSLP reimbursement rate and any applicable standard supplemental reimbursements (for example, severe need, 8-cent performance-based). Schools do not have to factor in the temporary supplemental reimbursements (\$0.40 per lunch, \$0.15 per breakfast) provided by the Keep Kids Fed Act. The new reimbursement rates are posted and broken down by base rate + KKFA funds. Click the title above for the information.

[Reimbursement Rates for School Year 2022-2023](#)

New reimbursement rates for 2022-2023 have been published and are available by clicking the above title. These rates are effective from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. The additional \$0.40 per lunch and \$0.15 provided by the Keep Kids Fed Act are included as part of these published rates. Note that these additional reimbursements are temporary and only apply for SY 2022-2023.

[Severe Need Reimbursements for School Year 2022-2023 - UPDATED](#)

As schools return to normal operations, CEs that operated SSO during school year (SY) 2020-2021 may not have the data needed to determine eligibility for severe need breakfast and lunch reimbursements in SY 2022-

2023. These CEs may use the most beneficial claims data going back to SY 2019-2020 to qualify for severe need, as outlined in this article (click the title above).

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](#).

RELEASE: Updated Spanish Versions of Household Applications, Letters, and Media Release

Spanish versions of School Nutrition Program (SNP)-related forms have been revised with the updated Nondiscrimination Statement (NDS) as implemented by USDA. All forms can be found in the Forms table [here](#). More information can be found by clicking the above title.

Flexibilities in the Keep Kids Fed Act during School Year 2022-2023

The Keep Kids Fed Act passed on June 27, 2022, will allow higher reimbursements for meals, meal service flexibilities, and meal pattern flexibilities in the event of COVID-19-related supply chain issues.

TX-UNPS FDP Upgrade: Demos & Account Access

WBSCM training begins October 2022 for Recipient Agencies (aka CEs) in the pilot group. To prepare, TDA is collecting account access information and hosting a series of short WBSCM demos in August and September.

Increase to Performance-Based Supplemental Reimbursement

The performance-based reimbursement for eligible Contracting Entities is increasing from 7 cents to 8 cents in School Year 2022-2023. USDA announced with the publication of the School Year 2022-2023 reimbursement rates that the performance-based reimbursement for eligible Contracting Entities is increasing from 7 cents to 8 cents.

Monthly Highlights

2022 Turnip the Beet Recognition Award

The Turnip the Beet Award recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors across the nation who work hard to offer high quality meals to children that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious during the summer months. For more resources, including 2022 Nomination Form, Turnip the Beet Resource Guide, and deadlines, visit TDA's Turnip the Beet page.





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