

Howard's News From MDE

April 26, 2018



The information in this document helps support Goal 4, Strategy 4.1, of [MDE's Top 10 in 10 Initiative](#)ⁱ by helping to ensure students receive important nutritional resources to help them learn and grow.

School Year 2018-2019 Prototype Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

Below is a copy and paste of an email MDE has received from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Please be sure to read the comments following the email itself.

"FNS will not be releasing an updated Prototype Application for Free and Reduced Price School Meals, for the School Year (SY) 2018-2019. School Food Authorities (SFAs) can continue to use the existing prototype in preparations for SY 2018-2019. Additionally, the translated application prototypes will not be updated for SY 2018-2019, and SFAs can continue to use the translated prototypes on the FNS [Web site](#)."ⁱⁱ States and SFAs are not required to use the FNS Prototype Application, and are welcome to update local applications that are currently being used by program operators."

NOTE - USDA has not issued or addressed the new Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEG) for free, reduced, and paid applications. At this time, we do not know if they will change or by how much they *may* change. Do not approve the applications using the current IEGs. Applications cannot be approved prior to July 1. We will communicate with all interested parties when we receive more guidance on the IEGs.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Application

The 2018 SFSP Michigan Electronic Grants System Plus (MEGS+) application is available for sponsors. Access to the MEGS+ application is on the [MEIS website](#).ⁱⁱⁱ Scroll down to Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) Program Applications and click on the [MEGS+](#)^{iv} link. After login, go to the Main Menu page and click "View Available Application/Tasks." Find **CNP: Summer Food Service Program (SFSP-2018)** application, click on the initiate button and accept (this may take a few minutes for the application to load). Navigate to the *View/Edit Page*. Review Application Agreement Materials, update all Sponsor/Site Information and Program Forms, and upload required Attachments in the application. Once completed, be sure to *Change Status* and submit the application for MDE to review. For application questions, refer to the *Show Help* button on application pages.

Please submit applications as soon as they are completed. Applications are due by **May 15, 2018**.

SFSP Newsletter

For the latest issue of the SFSP Newsletter, visit [April 2018 SFSP Newsletter](#).^v

Turnip the Beet Awards

USDA just released the 2017 Turnip the Beet Award winners, recognizing outstanding SFSP sponsors who work hard to offer high quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is excited to announce our 2017 Turnip the Beet High Quality Meal Award winners. Michigan nominated 11 exceptional sponsors and all are being awarded a Turnip The Beet award. Our 11 sponsors are among an elite group of 111 sponsors nationwide to receive this award.

MDE would like to congratulate all the winners for their dedication to the SFSP while positively contributing to children's healthy development by offering nutritious meals, encouraging children to develop healthy habits at a young age, and feeding the whole child the whole year.

	Award
Bridgman Public Schools	Silver
Fenton Area Public Schools	Silver
Food Bank of Eastern Michigan	Silver
Kent City Schools	Silver
Mattawan Consolidated Schools	Silver
Monroe Family YMCA	Silver
Montrose Community Schools	Silver
Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency	Silver
Oxford Community Schools	Silver
Port Huron Area School District	Bronze
South Haven Public Schools	Silver

Tuesday at 2 Webinar

One Tuesday each month, we will host a webinar at 2:00 p.m. that will last approximately 30 to 45 minutes. Each webinar is designed to provide quick updates on the "latest and greatest" information on a designated topic for that month with the opportunity for participants to ask questions. Our next Tuesday at 2 Webinar:

- Date: May 15, 2018
- Topic: Professional Standards

To join the webinar, [pre-registration is required](#).^{vi} The link for the webinar will be provided with your registration confirmation from Eventbrite. Please take advantage

of this opportunity and join us in getting your Professional Standards questions answered!

You can join this webinar from a desktop or laptop computer with speakers. Phones are not necessary to hear the audio for this webinar. Mobile devices can also be used, but some aspects of the webinar (i.e., polling questions) may not be visible on your screen. We will be using Skype for Business. If you are not familiar with this technology, you may want to join the webinar before 2:00 pm to check your video and audio settings.

Farm to School Education and Marketing Webinars

Check out two new webinars on Farm to School Education & Marketing brought to you by [10 Cents a Meal for School Kids & Farms!](#)^{vii}

The [webinar for food service directors](#)^{viii} features success stories about district-wide farm to school education initiatives from three 10 Cents grantees. Hear tips about how to engage parent volunteers, teachers, and administrators in activities from taste tests to school gardens. Our presenters share how hands-on learning activities for students encourages consumption of local fruits and veggies in the cafeteria.

The [webinar for educators and administrators](#)^{ix} provides practical strategies for implementing hands-on farm to school learning activities designed by curriculum specialists here in Michigan that meet educational standards. Leaders in Michigan's farm to school movement share how farm to school positively impacts student success, health, and behavior.

Building Healthy Communities: Step Up for School Wellness Grant

Wouldn't it be nice if students would create a marketing program designed to increase school meal participation, fruit and vegetables selection? If you answered "yes" we have a grant for you.

- [Applications](#)^x are now being accepted.
- Schools select the "smarter lunchroom" component and receive \$1000 for grant activities.
- The STEM based Lunchroom Detective lessons were designed for 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th grade classrooms. Students are asked to create a fruit and vegetable marketing effort.

For further information, visit [Request for Applications](#).^{xi}

Michigan STEPS Wellness Challenge

Join the School Nutrition Association (SNA) [STEPS](#) program. MDE School Nutrition Program's Team Nutrition want Michigan school nutrition professionals to be their best through wellness.

- Our goal is to sign up at least 200 active participants by October 25, 2018.
- Those who sign up and submit points are automatically enrolled in a drawing for a \$100 nutrition education gift card and monthly newsletter.
- The STEPS program is a free program to SNA members and non-members
- To sign up visit [STEPS Program Registration](#)^{xii}

Congratulations to our most recent **STEPS**^{xiii} winners:
September 2017 - Jodi Nieuwstadt, Plymouth Canton Schools
October 2017 - Sue Nemeth, Kingston Community Schools
November 2017 - Maria Hill, Port Huron Area School District
December 2017 - Roseann Kimmel, Port Huron Area School District
January 2018 - Laura Taylor, Port Huron Area School District
February 2018 - Sarah Stone – Grand Haven Public Schools

What motivates our monthly winners to get active?

"I like to try to be as active as I can be for both myself and my family. I hope that my boys will understand that getting off electronics and being active is one way to lead a healthy lifestyle. The reason I try and stay fit is because I have other activities after a full day of work that I am involved in." - Jodi Nieuwstadt, Plymouth Canton Schools

"Every morning, when the alarm goes off, my three big dogs and I go for a 40-minute walk. I love the early morning, its quiet and gives me time to mentally plan for my day. Although, I can attest that some mornings I want to pull the covers over my head and go back to bed, but once I get moving I am thankful I did." - Sarah Stone, Grand Haven Public Schools.

Howard Leikert, MBA, SMS

Supervisor, School Nutrition Programs
517-373-3892

Our collective efforts can help make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years! Here are the goals and strategies: <http://mi.gov/top10in10/>



ⁱ <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-80635---,00.html>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/applying-free-and-reduced-price-school-meals>

ⁱⁱⁱ https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-5236_29341---,00.html

^{iv} https://mdoe.state.mi.us/megsplus/Login2.aspx?APPTHEME=MIMDE_MEGSPLUS

^v https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Michigan_Summer_Meals_Newsletter_April_2018_621237_7.pdf

^{vi} <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tuesday-at-2-webinar-professional-standards-registration-41084196939>

^{vii} https://www.tencentsmichigan.org/tools_for_schools

^{viii} <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t87wYsn-r3Q&feature=youtu.be>

^{ix} <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0rb8UWHFrc&feature=youtu.be>

^x <http://buildinghealthycommunities.arewehealthy.com/>

^{xi} http://buildinghealthycommunities.arewehealthy.com/documents/BHC_SUFSW_C5_RFA_FINAL.pdf

^{xii} <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5Y6WSWQ>

^{xiii} <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5Y6WSWQ>