



School Nutrition Programs (SNP) News and Updates

October 15, 2020

Governor Whitmer Proclaims October 12-16 Michigan School Lunch Week

LANSING – School lunches, whether provided in school or to families of children learning at a distance during the pandemic, are important components to ensure healthy children. Governor Gretchen Whitmer declared the week of October 12-16, 2020 as Michigan School Lunch Week.

"No parent should have to worry about how to put food on the table for their children. The National School Lunch Program has helped provide food to Michigan families for more than 70 years," **Gov. Whitmer** said. "Federal waivers to provide flexibility in the delivery of school lunches have helped our state continue to provide food for children during the COVID-19 pandemic, so all students can eat free this fall. School Lunch Week will serve as a reminder for all of us to give thanks and underscore the importance of schools meals for students and their families."

To support schools and families when the COVID-19 pandemic first hit Michigan in mid-March, Michigan was granted waivers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in March and again in late August that permitted:

- Parents to pick up food for their children outside of school

- Schools to provide meals for 7 rather than 5 days a week
- Parents to pick up meals at a single school for children in more than one school
- Schools to provide free meals for children at all schools

State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice said this proclamation shines the spotlight on the positive impact nutritious school lunches have on children's education, development, health, and well-being; and the dedicated people who work hard every day to plan, prepare, and deliver these meals to children.

"We have served a nearly 100 million meals to kids in Michigan since the pandemic first hit Michigan in mid-March," **Dr. Rice** said. "The federal waivers have just been extended through the rest of the school year so children will not lack the essential nutrition to be healthy. Celebrating school lunch week promotes nutrition education and the awareness of the value school nutrition programs have on the whole child."

National School Lunch Week (NSLW), which for the past 30 years has commemorated the National School Lunch Program created by President John F. Kennedy in 1962, now serves nearly 30 million children every school day.

To view the proclamation, click the link below:

[School Lunch Week 2020.pdf](#)

National School Lunch Week

To celebrate National School Lunch Week, the School Nutrition Programs unit collected some photos that represent all of the wonderful meals being offered around the state. Staff in the Office of Health and Nutrition Services, are honored to support the heavy lifting done by all of the Child Nutrition Professionals working in our schools every day. Without the thousands of staff across the state working hard to prepare and distribute meals, millions of children would be missing out on the nourishment they need to learn and grow. Thank you for all you do. See the attachment below.

[School Lunch Week](#)

School Meals in School Year 2020-2021

On Friday, October 9, 2020, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) extended nationwide waivers for specific requirements to help schools continue to provide meals to children during the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. These USDA waivers allow for meals to be provided to any child age 18 and under, up to seven days a week, regardless of how learning is planned (remote, hybrid, or in-person)

under the extended summer food service program (E-SFSP). [School Meals in School Year 202-2021 Memo](#)

10 Cents A Meal Grant Available

The 10 Cents A Meal grant is a competitive, matching grant for all school districts (public, PSA, or private), RCCIs, and sponsors of child care centers who participate in the USDA child nutrition programs of Extended Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) during the school year, National School Lunch Program (NSLP), or the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to receive reimbursement for buying and serving Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and legumes. It is an opportunity for ALL school districts and child care sponsors state-wide.

If awarded, you are required to:

- Purchase at least twice the amount of the grant award in local produce
- Submit purchasing/invoice data
- Complete monthly surveys
- Claim for reimbursement

The application is now open. To access the application, click on the following link: [10 Cents A Meal Application](#).

There will be a two-week turn around to submit your completed application. Completed applications are **due by Monday, October 26 at 9:00 am**.

The application is competitive and asks for information such as:

- Current local, minimally processed produce purchasing and how it's used in your program(s)
- Current farm-to-school partnerships
- Marketing plans for local purchasing initiatives
- Project goals including educational efforts

The more thorough your application response is, the better chance you will have to be granted funds.

To learn more about the grant and the success districts have had, visit [10 Cents A Meal](#). For questions about the application, please contact Liana Bennett at BennettL4@michigan.gov or Jaime Malnar at MalnarJ1@michigan.gov.

No Kid Hungry School Nutrition Grant 2021 - Apply Today!

No Kid Hungry in partnership with MDE has grant opportunities available to school nutrition programs to aid in maximizing student participation in federal nutrition programs. The following link provides more details on grant specifics such as: minimum amounts, application instructions, and eligibility priorities: [NKH Fall 20-21 Grant RFP](#).

Funds will only be available for limited time so please get your application in ASAP, contact Mindy Grant grantm9@michigan.gov with any questions.

Upcoming Events

Town Hall Meetings

Topic: Town Hall Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Time: 2:00 pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/98740067623?pwd=K1pSWWxjbDZ5VnJNVmZzWGJYdUdxQT09>

Password: X51070

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 806533

School Nutrition Association of Michigan (SNAM) Virtual Annual Conference & Exhibit Show - November 10 until December 31, 2020

Registration is now open. Please visit [HERE](#) to register today.

Chef Jeff will be kicking us off on November 10 at 2 pm with a live keynote.

The remainder educational sessions will be pre-recorded and available from November 10 until December 31 so that you and your team can watch as many as you would like at a time most convenient to you! Sessions will involve the following topics:

1. Mental Health, self-care, employee health, leading in stressful times, having fun, treating people nicely
2. Local foods, food distribution, meal quality, meal service options and related equipment
3. MDE track: all things school meal regulations
4. Financial: best use of commodity dollars, increasing participation, KPIs, meal debt

There will also be a virtual food show presented by From the Show Floor, where you will have the opportunity to view episodes from your favorite vendors, anytime during our conference event. Please visit the [registration page](#) for a full list of participating industry partners.

More information to come on a detailed agenda.

Updates, Guidance, and Regulation Information from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service

From USDA Team Nutrition:

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, we are sharing our free Spanish language nutrition resources for Child Nutrition Program operators and families:

[Spanish Materials Available from Team Nutrition](#)

Discover What's New:

- Mealtimes With Toddlers Family Handout ([La hora de la comida con los niños de 1 a 2 años de edad folleto familiar](#))
- Developmental Readiness for Solid Foods Video ([Video de Disposición madurativa del bebé para comer alimentos sólidos](#))
- Feeding Babies Game Show ([Show de Juego: Alimentación para Bebés](#))
- And more! ([Más recursos en español](#))

Our Collection of Spanish Language Resources is Growing:

- **>150** Nutrition Resources

- **45** New Resources in FY 2020
- **49** Digital Tools (games, videos, eBooks, slides, and recorded webinars)

Topics Include:

- Feeding Infants
- Mealtimes with Toddlers
- Meal Planning
- Nutrition Education
- Tips for Families

Reminders and Due Dates

2021 MEGS+ CNP: SNP Application Available

If your school is going to switch to Extended SFSP beginning in August or September 2020, you must still complete the 2021 MEGS+ SNP application. It is very important that MDE approves both the 2020 SFSP and the 2021 SNP applications.

Michigan Electronic Grant System Plus (MEGS+) Child Nutrition Programs (CNP): School Nutrition Programs (SNP) 2021 Application is now available.

The MEGS+ website for completing the SNP 2021 Application is at [MEGS+](#).

Application Due Date

The table below shows the MEGS+ application deadlines based on the first month in the 2020-2021 School Year for which you may submit a claim for reimbursement in the School Nutrition Programs.

Application Due Date: October 15, 2020

Please note a 2021 SNP Application must be submitted and approved in order to submit claims for July and August 2020.

Questions regarding the 2021 SNP MEGS+ application may be directed to your analyst, mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov, or 517-241-5374.

USDA Foods Program

USDA Foods - School Food Authorities (SFA's) must complete the *Request for USDA Foods Delivery* portion of the SNP application within MEGS+ to participate in the USDA Foods Program for **School Year 2021-2022**. When completing the SNP application within the View/Edit screen, the *Request for USDA Foods Delivery* form

will be found under Program Forms. The deadline to choose to participate in the USDA Foods Program is October 15, 2020. **The SFA consortium decision is then irrevocable for School Year 2021-2022.**

Attached below you will find two documents that might assist you with making your consortium choice, those documents are the USDA Foods Consortia Services and Department of Defense (DoD) Services by Consortia. As a friendly reminder, your SFA already selected its consortium choice for SY 2020-2021 within the SY 2019-2020 MEGS+ SNP application and food ordering for the upcoming school year has already begun. If you have questions, please contact Jaime Malnar at MalnarJ1@michigan.gov or MDE-FMFD@michigan.gov.

[USDA Foods Consortia Services SY 2021-2022](#)

[Consortia DoD SY 2021-2022](#)

New School Nutrition Program (SNP) 2021 MEGS+ Application Completion Instructions

Indirect Cost (question #13 on the Sponsor Information page):

For Public Schools and Public School Academies: Please answer “Yes” to 13d (Public School rate) - every Public School and Public School Academy has an approved unrestricted indirect cost rate and we do not need any documentation uploaded.

For Non-public Schools, RCCIs, or brand-new Public School Academies: Please answer “No” to 13d. You will then be required to answer 13a. This answer should be “0” unless you have a negotiated indirect cost rate from another Federal Agency/Entity. Any questions about Indirect Cost rates can be directed to MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov.

Quick Guide:

- If you put a “0” for 13a., you do not need to do anything else for question #13.
- If you put anything other than “0” for 13a., you will be required to answer 13b. and 13c. by uploading supporting documentation, specifically a letter from the other Federal Agency/Entity that verifies your approved negotiated indirect cost rate.

Attachments (shown on the bottom of the View/Edit Page):

For all NSLP Participants: You are required to complete the SY 2020-2021 Meal Service Model Form. Emails were sent on August 6, 2020, explaining the process of uploading the required form.

For District-wide CEP: You are not required to upload any letters or documents (unless you have a new Food Service Director).

For any RCCIs without day students (meaning you answered “No” to question #11 on the Sponsor Information Page): You must upload a document for each attachment. It can say “We are an RCCI without day students”. Unfortunately, this could not be avoided so please upload the same document for each attachment.

For any RCCIs with day students (meaning you answered “Yes” to question #11 on the Sponsor Information Page): You must upload all documents and letters relating to Free and Reduced-Price Meals Applications.

For all other programs (including Partial-CEP): You must upload all documents and letters relating to Free and Reduced-Price Meals Applications.

For all Special Milk Program sponsors: You will need to upload the documents and letters relating to Free and Reduced-Price Meals Applications. You can ask your analyst if you have questions.

All questions about completing your SNP 2021 MEGS+ application, please contact your SNP analyst or email MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov.

Training Corner

Michigan Nutrition Training Calendar

During this time of necessary social distancing, it is very important for the field to have access to all the virtual trainings available to them, to help them continue to do their jobs. If you are offering an online/virtual training, please fill out and submit this questionnaire: [I want my training added to the MI Nutrition Training Calendar](#). Be sure to fill out ALL of the information including NA if the question does not apply. Trainings cannot be added to the calendar without the complete information.

Please visit the [Michigan Nutrition Training Calendar](#), a one-stop-shop calendar that lists child nutrition trainings across the state. The more trainings listed, the better the calendar will be for our Child Nutrition Programs!

If you have questions, contact MDE-MINutritionTraining@michigan.gov.

[How to Access the MI Nutrition Training Calendar](#)

School Nutrition Programs Training - Update

During this time of necessary social distancing, MDE has canceled scheduled in-person trainings for the time being. Instead, MDE will begin offering virtual training on various topics. Please check back periodically at the [MDE Training Website page](#) to see what is planned.

Questions of the Week

Question: If we served one day in August, can we combine that with the September claim?

Answer: The one August day should be claimed in August. This might seem burdensome, but we use the data to forecast and USDA uses it for funding planning, so we appreciate your diligence.

Question: If we already submitted a claim in August from our summer feeding, do we need to amend the August claim to include the first days of school with extended SFSP?

Answer: Yes, you need to amend the August claim. There are unlimited allowable edits during the 60 days you have to submit your claims.

Question: With CACFP, can you just provide a snack?

Answer: You could choose to only serve a snack, but also have the availability to serve a supper and be reimbursed for that meal as well.

Contact Us

Email: MDE-SchoolNutrition@Michigan.gov

Nutrition Gateway: The Michigan Department of Education [Nutrition Gateway](#) provides Child Nutrition Program (CNP) agencies a singular system to access annual CNP applications (MEGSplus), monthly claims (MIND) and periodic administrative reviews (GEMS/MARS) through an integrated dashboard and portal.

If you or someone you know is interested in receiving the School Nutrition News and Updates and SNP Bulletins, visit [School Nutrition News and Updates Subscription](#).

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Links Used in this Document:

https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2020/10/12/file_attachments/1569153/School%20Lunch%20Week%202020.pdf

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/School_Meals_School_Year_2020-2021_704929_7.pdf

<https://michigansna.org/meetinginfo.php?id=608&ts=1601664768>
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/espanol>
https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/Mealtime_with_Toddlers_Family_handoutSP.pdf
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/disposicion-madurativa-del-bebe-para-comer-alimentos-solidos>
https://www.fns.usda.gov/apps/game-show_SP/story_html5.html
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/espanol>
https://mdoe.state.mi.us/MEGSPlus/Login2.aspx?APPTHEME=MIMDE_MEGSPLUS&ReturnURL=/megsplus/
<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gems/public/QuestionnaireHome.aspx?code=i4a9scdr>
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Michigan_Nutrition_Training_Calendar_Access_678629_7.pdf
<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gems/public/QuestionnaireHome.aspx?code=i4a9scdr>
<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gateway/Authentication/TrainingCalendar>
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Michigan_Nutrition_Training_Calendar_Access_678629_7.pdf
https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254_50144_94240_94245-508154--,00.html
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/SNE_Document_665765_7.pdf
<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gateway/Authentication/Login>
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new?topic_id=MIMDE_229
https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf