



School Nutrition Programs (SNP) News and Updates

January 28, 2021

P-EBT 2.0: What you Need to Know

As of Thursday, January 28, 2021, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) does not have official approval from the United States Department of Agriculture to process P-EBT benefits for the School Year 2020-2021. However, work is being done behind the scenes so a timely delivery of benefits can happen once the official approval is received.

There will be a transfer of the student level Free and Reduced-Price Meal eligibility data completed at the state level using records from the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS). **For all students' sponsors need to continue to:**

- Collect and approve Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application;
- Pull Direct Certification reports and extend eligibility;
- Make sure student eligibility and addresses are updated in student information systems (SIS); and
- Pupil accounting staff are completing the appropriate student record uploads to the MSDS.

Questions regarding Free and Reduced-Price Meal eligibility may be directed to mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov.

Once MDHHS receives official approval more information will be made available.

25-Year Service Award

It is time again to nominate Michigan school food service professionals who have served for 25 years or more. Visit [SurveyMonkey](#) and complete the nomination form by March 1, 2021, if one or more of your employees have been involved with the National School Lunch Program in Michigan (public and non-public schools) for 25 years or more. Award certificates for 25 years of service will be emailed to the School Food Authority in the spring of 2021. Please do not list employees who have received this recognition in the past.

Calling all high school students interested in food!

We want to know what does the healthy, sustainable, and equitable high school cafeteria of the future look like?

And we need your help to find out. We invite you to share your thoughts and ideas for the future of high school cafeterias and help us create a platform for sharing these visions with policy and decision-makers.

If you would like to participate, please contact Larrea Young (laryoung@umich.edu) to schedule a virtual interview and creative brainstorming session.

Grant Opportunities

10-Cents a Meal

The 10-Cents a Meal [grant application](#) has re-opened. Please see the Application Tips section for assistance with the application.

What is 10-Cents a Meal?

This is a competitive, matching grant for all school districts (public, PSA, or private), RCCIs, and 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 open to all participants state-wide.

How does it Work?

1. Purchase local produce. You will need to purchase at least twice the amount of your grant award in local produce.
2. Serve it in your USDA reimbursable meals.
3. Make sure to promote the Michigan produce and provide some educational components about local agriculture and products.

4. Submit your receipts and invoices on a monthly basis.
5. Complete 3-4 surveys.
6. Receive reimbursement.

Application Tips

- You may access the application by using your MEIS login and password. This will allow you to save the application and return to it. If you login as Guest, you will have to complete the application at one time.
- The application has FOUR sections that you need to complete – Contact Information, Budget Detail, Assurances and Program Information. These may be found on the drop down menu on the left hand side (Under Select).
- The Program Information section includes 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, and 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 Michigan](#).

For questions about the application, please contact Liana Bennett, BennettL4@michigan.gov or Jaime Malnar, MalnarJ1@michigan.gov.

Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program Funding Opportunity

The Food and Agriculture Service Learning program increases knowledge of agricultural sciences and improves the nutritional health of children. The program focuses on increasing the capacity for food, garden, and nutrition education within host organizations, such as school cafeterias and classrooms, while fostering community engagement between farms and school systems. This initiative is part of a broader effort to increase access to school meals for low-income children and greatly improve meal quality. For more information, read the [Food and Agriculture Service Learning funding opportunity](#).

No Kid Hungry Michigan School Nutrition Best Practices During the Pandemic Webinar Series- DATE CHANGE

The webinar on Free and Reduced Applications scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 3rd from 3-3:45 has been moved to Wednesday, Feb. 17th from 3-3:45. The webinar will focus on free and reduced applications and will highlight new PEBT information if it's available. If you were registered for the webinar on Feb. 3rd, your registration will

automatically be moved to the 17th. If you haven't registered and would like to please [click here to register](#). There is no cost for this webinar.

Recordings to past webinars:

Webinar 3 Recording (Communications):

[Michigan Nutrition Best Practices During Covid-19 – Webinar 3 \(Communications\)](#)

Webinar 2 Recording (Regulatory Guidance):

[Michigan Nutrition Best Practices During Covid-19 – Webinar 2 \(Regulatory Guidance\)](#)

Webinar 1 Recording (Covid Preparedness):

[Michigan Nutrition Best Practices During Covid-19 – Webinar 1 \(Covid Preparedness\)](#)

Upcoming Events

Town Hall Meetings

Topic: Town Hall Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2021

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

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86120065891?pwd=NnpDU25FTnFOZENxVGdyWWZqRHRwUT09>

Password: 3aXe91

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 806533

Workshop Webinar

Topic: Special Dietary Needs

Date: February 24th

Time: 1-3pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Presenter: Wen Guo, MS, RD

Description: Dealing with student's special dietary needs has become a critical issue in our school nutrition programs. Hear from a Registered Dietitian who specializes in creating both modified and individualized diets for school districts, and working these

into operations, and school regulations. We'll also have a Q&A with an expert panel of Registered Dietitians from several districts across the state.

Registration: \$75

Register today at our [SNAM website](#).

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

Training Program Operators to Use Grains Ounce Equivalents

On February 10, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. ET, USDA's Team Nutrition initiative will host a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Trainers' Circle Webinar on "Training Program Operators to Use Grains Ounce Equivalents." This webinar will help State agencies, CACFP sponsoring organizations, and independent centers provide training on using ounce equivalents instead of "servings" to determine amounts of grains. CACFP operators are required to use ounce equivalents for grains by October 1, 2021 (["Delayed Implementation of Grains Ounce Equivalents in the Child and Adult Care Food Program Final Rule"](#).)

Registration for this free webinar is now available via the [Team Nutrition website](#).

Webinar participants will learn about existing [training tools](#) and strategies available on grains ounce equivalents. Additionally, Oregon's Department of Education will share how they used virtual training techniques to provide training for CACFP operators.

Team Nutrition will provide certificates of participation to individuals who attend the entire webinar. The National CACFP Sponsors Association (NCA) is also offering webinar participants the opportunity to submit and track continuing education credits. Also, Continuing Professional Education Units (CPEUs) have been approved from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' Commission on Dietetic Registration.

State agencies are encouraged to share this announcement with their CACFP sponsoring organizations and independent centers. For more information, please visit the [CACFP Trainers' Circle](#) webpage. Questions about the CACFP Trainers' Circle webinars may be sent to TeamNutrition@usda.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](#)

Questions of the Week

Question: How often should Direct Certification lists be pulled?

Answer: Best Practice is to regularly pull Direct Certification reports. Especially in these pandemic times, a family's employment status may change and may now receive benefits.

Question: I am struggling with meal participation in my district. What suggestions do you have?

Answer: The [Elevating School Meals Checklist](#) may help. The checklist provides an easy way to review your program. Changing one or two items may have a big impact on increasing participation. You are always welcome to reach out to MDE with specific questions or issues. MDE-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov

Question: Where can I buy fresh or minimally-processed local Michigan produce year round?

Answer: Fresh and minimally processed local Michigan fruits, vegetables and legumes are sold through farms directly, farmers' markets, food hubs, farmer cooperatives, broadline distributors, specialty distributors and grocery stores.

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](#).

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, 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://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M62ZZCT>
<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/GEMS/public/QuestionnaireHome.aspx?code=i8d9taaw>
<https://www.tencentsmichigan.org/>
https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/food-and-agriculture-service-learning-program?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&u

<http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/michigan-school-nutrition-best-practices-during-covid-19#webinar-4:-feb-3rd-%E2%80%93-free-and-reduced-applications->

https://strength.zoom.us/rec/play/6iwaUR09bSBIDWMnBkvKEBLv9cIEsBSEz792hCCXINgxvpGczHZlKxahqYJgOe7XDzPWROcJFW9zGZQE.2rIMZFiCQ4Tw7tJn?startTime=1611172835000&x_zm_rtaid=ASVpUEDZSaiWiYsJLpQEYQ.1611772611822.bd6115630b4601c044c63a85733b43eb&x_zm_rhtaid=453

https://strength.zoom.us/rec/play/XMohm4kaATa6ymrBluCpeRPPqz8g0vxY2R018pBfkD8tv37Pxr_1b6gNfxu0zKRUMuW9u_51I0jNeEJD.IQrOZm70--V9nEh4?continueMode=true&x_zm_rtaid=ASVpUEDZSaiWiYsJLpQEYQ.1611772611822.bd6115630b4601c044c63a85733b43eb&x_zm_rhtaid=453

https://strength.zoom.us/rec/play/MfapjprVT7xf7-ldBBaGmyGpJVOHxmpdd_zaNitRDOczhiDMPQWsK5QeR5nxxVQoRpij0M8DI_7OqJiT.uiPe3o7t-X8h-G9r?startTime=1607544409000&x_zm_rtaid=ASVpUEDZSaiWiYsJLpQEYQ.1611772611822.bd6115630b4601c044c63a85733b43eb&x_zm_rhtaid=453

<https://michigansna.org/>

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/fr-092519>

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/trainers-circle-cacfp-webinars>

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/trainers-circle-cacfp-webinars>

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/trainers-circle-cacfp-webinars>

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Checklist_-_Elevate_School_Meals_712850_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://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