



School Nutrition News and Updates

January 31, 2020



"And Justice for All" Posters

Updates, Guidance, and Regulation Information from USDA Food and Nutrition Services

The new "And Justice for All Posters" are here. At this time, Office of Health and Nutrition Services (OHNS) Program Analysts are delivering the posters regionally based on their travel schedules. In addition, posters will also be available at

upcoming conferences and trainings. Once you have the new "And Justice for All" Poster, promptly dispose the old version.

Institutions participating in or administering the United States Department of Agriculture programs are required to display the appropriate "And Justice for All" poster in their facilities where it can be viewed by customers. All "And Justice for All" posters must be displayed in a specific size: 11" width X 17" height.

Questions regarding the "And Justice for All" posters may be directed to mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov.

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](#)(1) and complete the nomination form by March 2, 2020, 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 mailed to the School Food Authority in April 2020. Please do not list employees who have received this recognition in the past.

Michigan Nutrition Data System (MiND)

We are collecting feedback from users of the MIND system. Please take a moment to complete this [brief survey](#)(2) to help us improve the system. Thank you.

Employment Opportunity with the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN)

ICN has posted a position for a Native American/Tribal Communities Program Manager. The Native American/Tribal Communities Program Manager position will manage the Institute of Child Nutrition's national Native American/Tribal Communities initiative for child nutrition professionals along with program activities. The incumbent will manage and participate in the operation of Native American/Tribal Communities programs, promote the development and administration of the initiative's objectives and strategic goals, and build national collaborative partnerships supporting the initiative activities. For further information, visit [Native American/Tribal Communities Program Manager](#).(3)

Reminders and Due Dates

School Food Authority Verification Collection Report (SFA-VCR)

The deadline for completing the SFA-VCR report is February 1, 2020. The web-based SFA-VCR is accessible through the Michigan Nutrition Data System (MiND) at [MiND Login](#).(4)

Proposed Rules

On January 17, 2020, USDA released a proposed rule change for the National School Lunch, School Breakfast and Summer Food Service Programs. This is a *proposed* rule change. **Do not** make any changes to your program based on these proposed changes. Current rules are still in effect.

MDE is reviewing the details and will be providing feedback prior to the USDA's 60-day submission deadline. School districts are welcome to submit their own comments to [USDA](#)(5) or [SNA](#) (6) as well.

The full document is available by visiting [Federal Register](#).(7) A USDA fact sheet is available by visiting [School Meals Flexibilities Fact Sheet](#).(8) SNA has also posted a [summary](#)(9) of the proposed rule.

School Breakfast Flexibility

On January 22, 2020, USDA FNS released a memo in response to Section 749 of Division B of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94), enacted on December 20, 2019. This continuing resolution extends the flexibility described in SP 06-2020, *School Breakfast Program: Continuation of the Substitution of Vegetables for Fruit Flexibility*, through June 30, 2021.

For details about this flexibility, visit [USDA Memo SP 06-2020](#).(10)

Share Your Child Nutrition Program Trainings and Resources on the Child Nutrition Sharing Site

Child Nutrition Program operators, state agencies, allied organizations, and industry partners can now submit their free Child Nutrition Program resources and training materials for inclusion on the Institute of Child Nutrition's (ICN) [Child Nutrition Sharing Site](#) (CNSS).(11) Resource guides, tools, tip sheets, posters, training manuals, presentation slides, webinars, and videos are among the countless resources that can be submitted to the CNSS site using the [Child Nutrition Program Resource Submission Form](#).(12) Just fill out the required information on the form, upload your resource or training materials, and then click the "Submit Resource" button at the bottom of the form. ICN will then review submitted resources to ensure quality and appropriateness of all resources housed in the CNSS.

ICN's CNSS is an online information center providing Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) with a means for sharing effective resources related to program operation. CNSS aids in the collection and sharing of state and local resources by providing a centralized place to store, organize, manage, and share knowledge and tools among the CNP community. This collaboration between the ICN and United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (USDA/FNS) gives CNP professionals access to resources that support current Federal regulations, policies, and guidance.

What You Can Do to Help Prevent Wasted Food Now Available

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative is pleased to announce the availability of a slightly revised [What You Can Do to Prevent Wasted Food \(13\)](#) booklet for school meal programs. Team Nutrition has updated this publication to include new tips and resource links. School nutrition professionals, parents, students, teachers, and school administrators can use this booklet to help reduce, recover, and recycle food to lessen food waste.

Training Corner

Talk @ 2pm

Join School Nutrition Programs staff for an informal 30-minute to 1-hour webinar meeting. Staff will provide a brief description of the topic and the remainder of the time is open for Q & A. Preregistration is required. After registering, a link to copy and paste into your browser to access the webinar will be emailed to you in your registration confirmation. Following is information on the upcoming Talk @ 2pm topics:

Topic: Mid-Year Staff Training

- Mid-Year check in on professional standards training for school nutrition staff (Think "Back to School" training in January.)

When: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 – 2:00 pm

To Register: [Mid-Year Staff Training Webinar \(14\)](#)

Topic: Excess Fund Balance

- Allowable ways to spend down excess funds

- How to carry over extension
- How to submit a spend down plan to MDE

When: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 - 2:00 pm

To Register: [Excess Fund Balances Webinar\(15\)](#)

Residential Child Care Institution (RCCI) Workshop

The staff of the Michigan Department of Education's School Nutrition Programs unit is pleased to announce a one-day workshop for administrators and food service directors from RCCIs operating United States Department of Agriculture Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) or interested in operating CNPs. The workshop is intended to provide staff of RCCIs the latest information for administering and operating the CNPs. The workshop format is a mixture of general sessions, table discussions, and networking opportunities.

When: Thursday, March 5, 2020 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Where: Michigan Virtual, 920 Municipal Way, Lansing, Michigan 48917

To Register: [RCCI Workshop\(16\)](#)

Michigan Nutrition Training Calendar

Please visit the [Michigan Nutrition Training Calendar](#),⁽¹⁷⁾ a one-stop-shop calendar that lists child nutrition trainings across the state. Use the links below to **have your training added to the calendar** or if you would like **MDE staff to come and train or speak at your training**.

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\(18\)](#)

[I want my training added to the MI Nutrition Training Calendar.\(19\)](#)

[I would like MDE staff to come and train at my training.\(20\)](#)

Questions of the Week

Question: On half days, could we send students home with cold packed lunches if they meet reimbursement standards?

Answer: Unfortunately, no. All meals must be eaten at school before dismissal.

Question: Can we serve lunch after school is dismissed on half days, for example, during latch key?

Answer: Students must be provided with time to eat lunch before dismissal. Lunch time can be used as instructional time prior to dismissal. Contact your SNP analyst for assistance in setting up lunch in the classroom procedures.

Question: Can we serve lunch in the classroom or in the cafeteria prior to school dismissing?

Answer: YES! This is the best practice. On half-days, meals can be served in the classroom or cafeteria prior to dismissal. All students need to have access to the meal service and have enough time to eat prior to the dismissal bell but this would be allowable and reimbursable.

Contact us

Email: MDE-SchoolNutrition@Michigan.gov

Nutrition Gateway: The Michigan Department of Education [Nutrition Gateway\(21\)](#) 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.

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If you or someone you know is interested in receiving the School Nutrition News and Updates, visit [School Nutrition News and Updates Subscription](#).(22)

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To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (23) (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.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

substitution-vegetables-fruit-flexibility

(11)<https://theicn.org/cnss/>

(12)<https://theicn.org/cnss/public-resource-submission/>

(13)<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/what-you-can-do-help-prevent-wasted-food>

(14)<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/talk-at-2pm-webinar-mid-year-staff-training-registration-89998043571>

(15)<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/talk-at-2pm-webinar-excess-fund-balances-registration-91788643303>

(16)<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/school-nutrition-program-residential-child-care-institution-rcci-workshop-registration-90176790207>

(17)<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gateway/Authentication/TrainingCalendar>

(18)https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Michigan_Nutrition_Training_Calendar_Access_678629_7.pdf

(19)https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Michigan_Nutrition_Training_Calendar_Access_678629_7.pdf

(20)https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Michigan_Nutrition_Training_Calendar_Access_678629_7.pdf

(21)<https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gateway/Authentication/Login>

(22)https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new?topic_id=MIMDE_229

(23)https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf