

# School Nutrition News From MDE

January 17, 2019

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

## Child Nutrition Programs Administrative Memo No. 1

For important information on the 60-day claim submission deadline requirements for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Special Milk Program (SMP), and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), visit [Child Nutrition Programs Administrative Memo No. 1 - School Year 2018-2019](#).<sup>ii</sup> For further information, visit the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) [Guidance on 60-Day Claim Submission](#).<sup>iii</sup>

## Partial Federal Government Shutdown

Due to a lapse in appropriations, the federal government entered a partial shutdown at midnight December 21, 2018. Congress has appropriated funding to some federal agencies for the fiscal year that began October 1, 2018, while other agencies had been operating on a series of Continuing Resolutions, which expired December 21, 2018. Congress must pass, and the President must sign, a new spending bill or agree to a Continuing Resolution for the government to fully reopen for business. For more information visit [Partial Federal Government Shutdown Memo](#).<sup>iv</sup>

## Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Staff Change

We want to inform all interested parties that Pam Baker, who specialized in CEP, has left MDE. Contact Howard Leikert at 517-241-5375 or [leikerth@michigan.gov](mailto:leikerth@michigan.gov) for any CEP related questions. Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we adjust our staffing.

## School Wellness Award

The School Wellness Award is designed to recognize and applaud schools that are implementing sustainable policy and environmental changes related to healthy eating, physical activity, and tobacco-free lifestyles. A fully functioning School Health Team and completion of the Healthy School Action Tools (HSAT) are required for upper level awards (Gold/First and Silver/Second). Award winning schools will be recognized during a ceremony at the State Capitol in May 2019. The deadline to receive completed

applications is midnight EST on April 18, 2019. The application, along with more information about the award, can be found at <http://swa.mihealthtools.org.v>

## Project Healthy Schools

[Project Healthy Schools](#)<sup>vi</sup> is a middle-school-based program developed by the University of Michigan to improve the present and future health of youth through assessment, education, wellness initiatives, and engagement of the school community to support healthy choices. Project Healthy Schools offers schools:

- Funding for school-wide events and equipment
- Engaging, hands-on sixth grade health curriculum
- Staff wellness programs
- Family engagement opportunities
- Training and on-site support

[Register for our webinar](#)<sup>vii</sup> to learn more about the Building Healthy Communities: Engaging Middle Schools through Project Healthy Schools program available at no cost to your school. Webinar participants will hear about:

- The upcoming opportunity to apply to participate in Project Healthy Schools
- How participating schools are creating a culture of wellness
- Health literacy education for students
- Resources and support provided
- Requirements for participation

Webinar will be held Monday, February 11, 2019, from 3:30-4:00 pm.

For more information visit [Project Healthy Schools](#)<sup>viii</sup> or call 734-764-0290.

## Breakfast Grant Opportunity

The United Dairy Industry of Michigan has a breakfast grant opportunity for the Detroit Metro Area (within 60 miles of Detroit). There are 10 grants worth \$2,000 per building to award (more than 1 building in a district can apply).

It is through the Fuel Up to Play 60 program to support the [Breakfast For Everyone](#)<sup>ix</sup> Play.

Schools can apply via a special application which will be available on the ["Additional Funding Opportunities"](#)<sup>x</sup> page of FuelUpToPlay60.com.

The application will be live from *January 16, 2019 – February 27, 2019*. Please contact Emily Mattern at [emily@milkmeansmore.org](mailto:emily@milkmeansmore.org) if you have additional questions.

## An Opportunity to Showcase Breakfast

During National School Breakfast Week, No Kid Hungry would like to show some love to the everyday heroes who make school breakfast possible for kids. It takes a village – teachers, principals, superintendents, custodians, coaches, cafeteria staff, advocates, elected officials – the list goes on. We want to hear from you! Is there someone in your school or community who has worked tirelessly to ensure students start each and every day with a healthy meal? Complete [this nomination form](#)<sup>xi</sup> to enter your breakfast hero to be recognized nationally and win a fun prize package from No Kid Hungry!

Nominations will be open from Monday January 7 until Friday January 25. No Kid Hungry will celebrate the winners during National School Breakfast Week (March 4-8). If your nominee is selected as a winner, you'll be notified within 30 days and given the opportunity to present the prize in person. No Kid Hungry will also celebrate the winners on social media, and we encourage you to do the same!

## **No Kid Hungry Webinars**

The following webinars are being offered by No Kid Hungry:

### **School Breakfast Promotion Strategies Webinar**

Getting the word out about school breakfast helps to ensure that more kids start the day with the fuel they need to learn, grow and thrive. This webinar will highlight a variety of marketing and promotion strategies to help you build awareness, generate excitement and ultimately increase school breakfast participation. Learn how you can use contests & challenges, social media, posters & flyers, taste tests, special guests and more to promote the school breakfast program and increase participation.

When: Wednesday, January 30, 2019, 3:00-4:00pm ET

To Register: visit [Webinar Registration](#)<sup>xii</sup>

### **School's Out, Food's In: Program Basics and Early Planning For Summer 2019 Webinar**

Join the No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices as they kick off their monthly summer meals webinar series with a review of key guidelines governing the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option (SSO). To begin, attendees will learn key similarities and differences between the two programs; discover how to determine program area eligibility within their communities; and receive information on meal pattern basics. The webinar will also highlight key elements of successful planning, with thought starters to help program sponsors and community organizations lay the groundwork for success in 2019.

When: Thursday, January 24, 2019, 2:00-3:00pm ET

To Register: visit [Webinar Registration](#)<sup>xiii</sup>

### **Financial Benefits of Breakfast After the Bell Webinar**

This webinar was previously recorded and is available for viewing. Most school nutrition departments are expected to be financially self-sufficient, often leaving directors balancing tight budgets with feeding students. Breakfast After the Bell (BAB) has been shown to boost breakfast participation, which in turn boosts revenue. If you've ever wondered how BAB will impact your bottom line, [this webinar](#)<sup>xiv</sup> covers the start-up costs of BAB and how BAB is a revenue generator.

# Questions of the Week

## School Food Authority Verification Collection Report (SFA-VCR) Questions and Answers

**Question:** My report doesn't have the breakdown for Medicaid free and reduced-price (lines 3-4 and 3-5). How do I get these numbers?

**Answer:** Each system is different, so speaking to a representative from your point of service company is a good first step. They can usually tell you which report to run that provides a breakdown by benefit or Direct Certification type. While confirming your Medicaid counts, also double check the number reported for students Directly Certified through other programs, line 3-3. Many sponsors are having to make corrections to line 3-3 of the SFA-VCR because their number is including the counts for Medicaid students.

**Question:** Why are the numbers on my report different than the CEPI numbers?

**Answer:** The numbers of reported students that you use for the SFA-VCR comes from the end of October. The CEPI Direct Certification (Center for Education Performance and Information) number of students in Section 3 comes from the fall count data. Due to these being different times during the school year, the counts are likely to be different. Your numbers do not need to be a perfect match to the CEPI numbers. However, it is encouraged to use the CEPI numbers as a guide to compare your data for accuracy. When MDE reviews your report, we compare your reported students to the CEPI reported students. Differences in these numbers is normal, especially for districts with large enrollment. If there are large discrepancies with the numbers, MDE might follow up to verify the reported counts or to discuss what data was used in determining these counts.

For example, line 3-3 is an area that is requiring a lot of follow-up this year. In many instances, sponsors are reporting hundreds of students more than what is reported in the CEPI column. Again, these numbers are not expected to be exact, but when there are large discrepancies there may be a problem. If you find that you reported the incorrect number, you can go back in to MIND and make the change. Just be sure to save and certify when you are done.

Section 3: Students approved as FREE eligible NOT subject to verification		
<i>ALL SFAs must report Section 3 or check box 3-1 if applicable</i>	A. CEPI Direct Certification	B. Number of FREE Students
3-3: Students directly certified through other programs: Include those directly certified through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), those documented as homeless, migrant, runaway, foster, Head Start, Pre-K Even Start, or non-applicant but approved by local officials. DO NOT include SNAP students already reported in 3-2.	11	490

## Partial Federal Government Shutdown Question and Answer from USDA

**Question:** Can households of furloughed employees be approved for free or reduced price school meal benefits? Should they be removed from the program when the furlough is over?

**Answer:** The income eligibility guidelines for free and reduced price school meals are based on annual income. While there is no prohibition on households with furloughed employees applying for benefits during a furlough, school food authorities (SFAs) should manage the application process in a manner which reflects their unique circumstances. During the furlough period, these households may not have information on the duration of the furlough or its ultimate impact on household income. Therefore, it is reasonable for SFAs to remind households that free or reduced price eligibility is intended to reflect actual annual income. School districts should urge any families who are approved for free or reduced-price meals based on their reduced income during a furlough period to terminate their free/reduced price status should the economic hardship they had anticipated due to the furlough be remedied by a return to work and/or restoration of pay for the furlough period.

In addition, families should be made aware that if they are selected for verification later in the school year, they will be required to produce documentation of *actual* income for the application month. School districts may choose to verify applications “for cause” if they have specific information indicating that the information on the application is not accurate.

School Nutrition Programs  
Office of Health and Nutrition Services  
Michigan Department of Education  
517-241-5374  
[www.michigan.gov/schoolnutrition](http://www.michigan.gov/schoolnutrition)

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/>



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

<sup>ii</sup> [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Admin\\_Memo\\_No.\\_1\\_643574\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Admin_Memo_No._1_643574_7.pdf)

<sup>iii</sup> [https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/cn/SP20\\_CACFP14\\_SFSP07-2018a.pdf](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/cn/SP20_CACFP14_SFSP07-2018a.pdf)

<sup>iv</sup> [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Fed\\_Shutdown\\_Information\\_643261\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Fed_Shutdown_Information_643261_7.pdf)

<sup>v</sup> <http://swa.mihealthtools.org/>

<sup>vi</sup> <http://www.projecthealthyschools.org/>

<sup>vii</sup> <https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/register/dcvutqfd>

<sup>viii</sup> <http://www.projecthealthyschools.org/>

<sup>ix</sup> <https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/playbooks/current-seasons-playbook/breakfast-for-everyone-first-meal-matters>

<sup>x</sup> <https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/playbooks/current-seasons-playbook/breakfast-for-everyone-first-meal-matters>

<sup>xi</sup> <https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/playbooks/current-seasons-playbook/breakfast-for-everyone-first-meal-matters>

<sup>xii</sup> <http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars/school-breakfast-promotion-strategies>

<sup>xiii</sup> <http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars/schools-out-foods-program-basics-and-early-planning-summer-2019>

<sup>xiv</sup> <http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars/financial-benefits-breakfast-after-bell>