

School Nutrition News From MDE

October 5, 2018



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

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:** October 16, 2018
- **Topic:** Verification

To join this webinar, [pre-registration is required](#). 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 Verification 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.

National School Lunch Week

Reminder that National School Lunch Week is October 15 – 19, 2018. The theme this year is, "School Lunch: Lots 2 Love."

Procurement Threshold Updates

On June 20, 2018, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released a memo that changed the micro purchase threshold to \$10,000 and the simplified acquisitions (small purchase) threshold to \$250,000. The State of Michigan maintains a more restrictive threshold for Food Purchases of \$100,000 for Public School Districts, Academies and ISDs. The threshold for Supplies for Public School Districts, Academies and ISDs in Michigan was recently updated to \$24,459 on September 27, 2018. The new Federal thresholds for Services of \$250,000 and Micro Purchases of \$10,000 are allowed **immediately** along with the new State of Michigan Supplies threshold of \$24,459. Michigan Department of Education's Office of Health and Nutrition Services is currently working on updating our instructions, guidance, and tools to

reflect these changes. Any questions regarding the new procurement thresholds may be directed to our Fiscal Monitoring Unit at 517-241-5348 or MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov. For more information, visit [Competitive Bid Threshold, FY 2019 Memo.](#)ⁱⁱ

Position Opening at the School Purchasing and Resource Consortium (SPARC)

There is an RFB available for an open director position at SPARC. Below you will find a few important dates about the RFB:

- This bid is available as of October 3, 2018.
- All letter of intents to bid are due by **October 12, 2018**.
- All bids are due **October 26, 2018**.

Nominations for the Turnip the Beet High Quality Meal Awards for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

All Summer Food Service Program sponsors in compliance with Program requirements are eligible for a Turnip the Beet High Quality Summer Meal Award. There are three award levels available: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Sponsors may nominate themselves or another party may nominate them. A completed Turnip the Beet Nomination Form ([pdf](#) or [word](#)), one-month menu, and up to five supporting documents must be submitted by **October 15, 2018**, to mde-sfsp@michigan.gov. For additional information about Turnip the Beet High Quality Summer Meal Awards check out the [Turnip the Beet Webpage](#)ⁱⁱⁱ and [Turnip the Beet Overview](#).^{iv} Questions about Turnip the Beet can be directed towards Stephanie Willingham at willinghams@michigan.gov and Sara Harmon at harmon7@michigan.gov please include both.

U.S. Apple Association Grant Program

We received the following from the U.S. Apple Association:

"The U.S. Apple Association is thrilled to be celebrating the kickoff of Apples4Ed—a grant program that supports healthy snacking initiatives in public schools across the United States. In partnership with the School Nutrition Association (SNA) and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA), USApple will award five \$4,000 grants to public schools with students enrolled in any grade from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Winners will be selected by a panel of judges from USApple, SNA, and NASDA in the spring of 2019. Applications are evaluated based on their creativity, potential for student impact and use of existing resources to sustain the initiative into the future.

The grant program is designed for school communities to implement healthy snacking initiatives in creative ways that support the needs of their unique students and communities. By utilizing and enhancing existing resources and curricular opportunities that teach the importance of healthy choices to students in a relatable and memorable way, Apples4Ed can

help to support the amazing work educators and volunteers are already doing to help students develop and practice healthy eating habits.

With this year's Apples4Ed campaign, we encourage students to think about their long-term life goals. Consider the classic question: "What do you want to be when you grow up?" While we often expect students to describe their hopes and dreams of pursuing a specific career path or area of interest when asked that question, this year, we hope to foster conversations in schools that show the importance of healthy eating habits and choices to long-term success in other areas of adult life.

Many schools across the country are already doing amazing work to provide healthier food environments for their students, and to reinforce healthy habits. USAApple is excited to support their efforts and to help bring ideas happening at the school community level to fruition, so that students, teachers and broader school communities can be supported in the way that makes the most sense for their unique needs.

A lifelong healthy diet—and habits that contribute to a healthy diet, like practicing choosing healthy foods over unhealthy alternatives—can be one of the most valuable lessons that students learn in school. Many schools serve as a critical source of nutrition for students, and Apples4Ed supports schools as they help students develop lifelong healthy habits. We're proud to support educators who dedicate themselves to improving the lives of their students in the present and for their futures—learning to take care of themselves with a healthy diet is just one small way that teachers and school administrators leave a lasting and important impression on their students. For more information, visit [Apples4ed.](https://apples4ed.com)^{iv}

School Nutrition Programs
Office of Health and Nutrition Services
Michigan Department of Education
517-241-5374
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/>



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

ⁱⁱ https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Competitive_Bid_Threshold_333257_7.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/turnip-the-beet>

^{iv} https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/sfsp/2018Overview_TurniptheBeet.pdf

^v <http://apples4ed.com/program-details/>