

School Nutrition News From

September 6, 2019

School Year (SY) 2019 – 2020 School Meals Program Reimbursement Claims

We are working hard to approve the Michigan Electronic Grants system Plus (MEGS+) CNP: SNP 2020 Applications. The applications are being approved in the order they were submitted. Once your application is approved a reimbursement claim will be made available. If you have any questions please contact mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov.

Smart Snacks Guidance

A [Guide to Smart Snacks in School](#)ⁱ was updated for School Year 2019 – 2020. It is a helpful resource for anyone managing school vending machines, fundraisers, or snack bars to better understand the Smart Snacks standards.

SY 2019 – 2020 Child Nutrition Programs and Food Service Administrative Memos

These new Child Nutrition Programs and Food Service Administrative Memos have been posted to the School Nutrition Programs Website:

[Child Nutrition Programs Administrative Memo No. 1](#)ⁱⁱ – Purchasing of Federally Inspected Meat and Poultry for Use in Child Nutrition Programs

[Food Service Administrative Memo No. 4](#)ⁱⁱⁱ - Guidance for Direct Certification Requirements for Public and Non-public Schools Participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs

Team Nutrition Back to School Resources

Team Nutrition has a new [Resource Webpage](#)^{iv} that outlines some great ideas to get teachers, students, and parents engaged in our programs through nutrition education and physical activity.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Meal Pattern Training Slides

[CACFP Meal Pattern Training Slides](#)^v are now available. These ready-to-go presentation slides may be used by State Agencies, sponsoring organizations, and others to train providers, operators, and menu planners on the CACFP meal patterns. Presentations are designed for

interactive 30-minute trainings. The following presentations are available in both English and Spanish:

- Choose Breakfast Cereals That Are Lower in Added Sugars
- Choose Yogurts That Are Lower in Added Sugars
- Serving Milk in the CACFP
- Meal Planning for the CACFP
- Serving Meat and Meat Alternates at Breakfast
- Offer Versus Serve in the CACFP
- Methods for Healthy Cooking
- Adding Whole Grains to Your CACFP Menu
- Feeding Infants: 0-5 months
- How to Support Breastfeeding in the CACFP
- Feeding Infants: Starting with Solids

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Funding for Research on Barriers to Nutrition Supports for Low-Income Families

Federal nutrition policies are vital in providing low-income families with access to food and eliminating hunger around the country. However, there are still several barriers preventing families from accessing key programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and the CACFP. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is funding new research to build evidence on the barriers faced by low-income families with young children when it comes to obtaining nutrition support benefits. Academic institutions, public entities and private nonprofit organizations, state and local government agencies, and for-profit organizations are all encouraged to apply. Applicants also may represent partnerships between service providers or practitioners and researchers. Register for an optional webinar on September 16, 2019, from 2:00 - 3:00 pm. Brief proposals are due September 24, 2019. For more information, visit [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#).^{vi}

10 Cents Per Meal Grant

The 2019-2020 10 Cents Per Meal Grant application **is not yet available**. The reason is that the Michigan Department of Education must wait for the Governor to sign the final budget bill to begin any program planning. This bill language will determine the overall budget, eligible regions, and program dates. As soon as we know more, we will update all of you.

In the meantime, please save your local produce receipts and invoices if you are interested in the program. If you are not familiar with the 10 cents grant, this is a matching grant that can award up to \$0.10 for each meal served with produce that has been grown in Michigan. For information and success stories on the grant, visit [10 Cents A Meal](#).^{vii} If you have questions regarding the grant, please contact Jaime Malnar at malnarj1@michigan.gov or 517-335-3792 or Liana Bennett at bennettL4@michigan.gov or 517-241-5349.

Upcoming Events/Deadlines

Application Due Date

The Michigan Electronic Grants System Plus (MEGS+) Child Nutrition Programs (CNP): School Nutrition Programs (SNP) 2020 Application is now available. For the MEGS+ website for completing the SNP 2020 renewal/application, visit [MEGS+ Website](#).^{viii}

Please note a MEGS+ CNP: SNP 2020 Application must be submitted and approved in order to submit claims for SY 2019 – 2020. Submit your application by Friday, September 20, 2019.

USDA Foods Program

School food authorities (SFAs) 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 2020-2021**. 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, 2019. **The SFA consortium decision is then irrevocable for School Year 2020-2021**. The USDA Foods Consortia Services and Department of Defense (DoD) Services by Consortia have two documents that might assist you with making your consortium choice. For a copy of these documents, contact the School Nutrition Programs office by phone 517-241-5374 or email mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov. As a friendly reminder, your SFA already selected its consortium choice for School Year 2019-2020 within the School Year 2018-2019 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 517-241-5348.

Talk @ 2pm

The Office of Health and Nutrition Services is excited to announce Talk @ 2pm, an exciting opportunity for professional development and training via Skype for Business. Talk @ 2pm will typically be held 2 or more times per month throughout 2019. Join SNP staff for an informal 30-minute to 1-hour Webinar meeting, in which they will provide a brief description of the noted topic and the remainder of the time is open for Q & A. Please see below for additional information and registration links for upcoming Talk @ 2pm topics:

September 10, 2019 - 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Topic: WHOLE CHILD - An overview of the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model and how you, as food service directors, fit into that model.

To Register: [Talk @2pm Whole Child Registration Page](#)

September 24, 2019 - 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Topic: POINT OF SERVICE (POS) – COUNTING AND CLAIMING

- How to take an accurate count at Point of Service
- Acceptable and Unacceptable Points of Service
- Best practices throughout the State of Michigan
- Common findings during Administrative Reviews

To Register: [Talk @2pm POS-Counting and Claiming Registration Page](#)

USDA Webinar - Using the Nondiscrimination Statement in Child Nutrition Programs: Where, When, Why, and How?

Each year thousands of Child Nutrition Programs applications, verification documents, and questions about lunch balances are sent in error to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. These misdirected materials and questions slow down the review of applications for schools and childcare facilities and can cause confusion for families. This webinar will help State agencies and local Program operators learn where and when to use the appropriate Nondiscrimination Statement, as well as which version of the statement must be used to be compliant with Program regulations. The goal of this webinar is to improve customer service by clarifying the proper use of the Nondiscrimination Statement and clarify for families where to send completed applications, verification materials, and questions about account balances. We will provide several examples and answer questions at the end of the webinar.

When: Monday, September 16, 2019 at 1:00 - 2:00 PM ET

To Participate: visit Webinar Registration. You may use this same link to log-in to participate on the day of the webinar.

Streaming audio will be available through your computer. If that is not an option, use the call-in information below. To receive a callback, provide your phone number when you join the event, or call the number below and enter the access code.

US Toll: +1-415-527-5035

Access code: 900 710 655

Take a Virtual Farm Tour of a Local Michigan Dairy Farm!

United Dairy Industry of Michigan invites classrooms on a **live** Virtual Farm Tour to a Michigan Dairy Farm. Without leaving the comfort of the classroom, students will get a peek at barns, cows and more as they see firsthand how dairy farmers care for their cows, the land, and produce delicious milk and other foods to enjoy! During the tour, your class will have an opportunity to ask questions that the farmer will answer live. Each tour will target grade-level Academic Standards.

Three tours available this fall:

- September 25, 2019 for grades Pre-K – 2nd
- October 2, 2019 for grades 6th – 12th
- October 9, 2019 for grades 3rd – 5th

Registration is free and easy. Visit [Virtual Farm Tour](#).^{ix}

Farms, Food, and Health Conference

Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities is partnering with Munson Healthcare, Great Lakes Culinary Institute of Northwestern Michigan College, and Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District to present the first joint Farms, Food and Health Conference with a Culinary Medicine training for accredited healthcare professionals. This event brings

together the cross-sector networking and interactive workshops and presentations of Farms, Food, and Health with the hands-on culinary training of Culinary Medicine. By tying these two events together, as well as adding a large public keynote address, teacher training workshop, expo, and many more conference-related activities, this event will highlight innovative initiatives, engage a large, diverse audience and provide much-needed technical skill-building for healthcare providers and educators. In the session *Chefs in Schools: Bringing Fresh and Local to a Cafeteria Tray Near You*, school food service directors (FSD), chefs, and business managers will explore the evolution of serving healthy, fresh, local options to students and how one district finally broke even on costs. Learn about their team approach, cafeteria updates, educational activities, and partnerships with supporting organizations and funding sources. Presenters include Nathan Bates, FSD, and Lori Herman, Business Officer of Boyne Falls and Jackie Cobb, formerly FSD of Glen Lake Schools, and now with the NMC Great Lakes Culinary Institute.

When: September 26-29, 2019

For further information and registration information, visit Farms, Food, and Health Conference.

School Meals Overview Training (SMOT)

This comprehensive training is for School Food Authorities (SFAs) and Residential Child Care Institutions (RCCIs) and will cover items that staff must know to provide quality meals that adhere to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) guidelines. Following are the dates for the upcoming SMOT.

When: September 26, October 2, and October 9, 2019

Location: Forest Hills Fine Arts Center, Grand Rapids

For further information and registration information, visit [SMOT Registration - Grand Rapids](#)

SNAM Annual Conference and Exhibit Show

The SNAM Annual Conference and Exhibit Show will be held October 24-27, 2019, at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City. For more information, visit [SNAM Annual Conference and Exhibit Show Registration](#).^x Please consider attending as this is a great way to get up-to-date information on program regulations, best practices, and products available.

Questions of the Week

Question: What qualifies a Migrant student for free meals?

Answer: A student is qualified as migrant by the state or local Migrant Education Program (MEP) coordinator or homeless liaison. Migrant students do not need to submit an application to qualify for free meals. Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) must gather the list of migrant children from MEP at the beginning of the school year. Once that list is obtained, the households must be notified immediately that they are eligible for free meals. Those students are then eligible for free meals the remainder of the year, regardless of change in migrant status. The LEA must work with the Migrant coordinator to keep the list up-to-date and maintain the proper documentation.

Question: What children are included in "Other Source Categorically Eligible"?

Answer: Homeless, Migrant, Runaway, Foster Children, and children enrolled in Head Start are categorically eligible for free meals. The LEA is responsible for gathering the list of homeless, migrant, and runaway students at the start of the school year. A letter of approval of benefits must be sent out to those families immediately. These students are exempt from submitting an income eligibility application.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Office of Health and Nutrition Services (OHNS) was approved for a waiver that added two years to the Administrative Review (AR) and Resource Management (RM) review Cycle 2, extending it for SY 2019 - 2020 and 2020 - 2021.

Question: What does this mean?

Answer: This waiver extended the required time for the School Nutrition Program (SNP) and the Fiscal and Administrative Services (FAST) units to complete AR and RM reviews by two years. The original deadline set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for MDE to complete this round of reviews was SY 2018 - 2019. By extending this cycle by two years, MDE now has an additional two years to complete those reviews.

Question: Isn't it a "5-year waiver"?

Answer: No, this waiver granted two **additional** years to the existing three-year cycle. This does **not** mean School Food Authorities (SFAs) will only be visited or contacted once every five years. Over the next two years, SNP and FAST will also be conducting on-site technical assistance visits, new food service director visits, and follow-up reviews based on previous review findings to support SFAs for continuous improvement rather than only being focused on compliance.

School Nutrition Programs
Office of Health and Nutrition Services
Michigan Department of Education
517-241-5374
www.michigan.gov/schoolnutrition

Visit the Michigan Parent Dashboard for School Transparency
Your Window to Important School Information and Facts

Learn more at: <http://www.MISchoolData.org/ParentDashboard>



ⁱ<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/guide-smart-snacks-school>

ⁱⁱhttps://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Admin_Memo_No_1_665056_7.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱhttps://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Admin_Memo_No_4_664982_7.pdf

^{iv}<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/team-nutrition-back-school-resources>

^v<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/meal-pattern-training-slides-cacfp>

^{vi}<https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2019/equity-focused-policy-research-building-evidence-on-nutrition-supports-for-low-income-families.html>

^{vii}<https://www.tencentsmichigan.org/>

^{viii}https://mdoe.state.mi.us/MEGSPlus/Login2.aspx?APPTHEME=MIMDE_MEGSPLUS&ReturnURL=/megsplus/

^{ix}<https://www.milkmeansmore.org/virtual-farm-tour/>

^x<https://michigansna.org/meetinginfo.php?id=520&ts=1566834230>