

School Nutrition News From

October 31, 2019

Serving Up USDA Foods Photo Contest

In celebration of National School Lunch Week 2019, USDA has announced the 4th Annual Photo Contest! The “Show Us Your Tray” contest might have a new name, but we still want to see how you are “Serving Up USDA Foods” in your school meals! Inspire other child nutrition professionals and submit a picture of your most creative breakfast or lunch using USDA Foods. With over 200 USDA Foods items available including proteins, fruits, vegetables, grains, and dairy, we want to highlight the innovative ways in which they can be used. To see the 2019 winners, including Michigan’s Birmingham Public School’s Ramen Bowl, visit: [2019 Show Us Your Tray Photo Contest](#).ⁱ

Your submissions will provide child nutrition professionals with healthy, creative, student-approved meal ideas using USDA Foods. The Serving Up USDA Foods photo contest begins November 1, 2019, and ends January 15, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. EST. For 2020 contest and submission details, visit [Photo Contest Submission Details](#).ⁱⁱ

Be sure to read all details and review the sample submission before deciding which school meals to feature and before taking and submitting photos. Please send all entries to the USDA Foods mailbox (USDAFoods@usda.gov).

School Nutrition Programs Requirements Calendar

For information on upcoming due dates, visit the [School Nutrition Programs Requirements Calendar](#).ⁱⁱⁱ

Meet Up and Eat Up Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

It’s never too early to start thinking about summer! Area Eligibility Criteria has been updated. Use the [USDA Mapping Tools](#)^{iv} to see if you have additional sites eligible. The entire data set is available for download on USDA Food and Nutrition Service’s [Open Data Site](#).^v Please note that the map works best when opened in the following browsers: Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox.

To learn more about using census data for establishing area eligibility for CACFP and SFSP Area Eligibility using Census Data, please see USDA’s [policy memorandum](#).^{vi}

USDA Farm to School Census

There is still time to complete the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA’s) 2019 Farm to School Census! This Census is the only national survey that examines school districts’ farm to school activities, such as local food purchasing behaviors, the number and use of school gardens, and the frequency of agricultural education. Click [here](#)^{vii} to review a worksheet that details the information you will need to help prepare your Census response. For additional information about the Census, please review the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).^{viii}

Remember, your SFA's *personalized* Census link was sent to you by email from Abt Associates. If you lost your unique link or have any questions about completing the Census, please contact the Abt study team toll-free at 855-452-5794 or e-mail farmtoschool@abtassoc.com.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in maximizing participation in the 2019 Farm to School Census! If you have any questions regarding Michigan's participation in the Census, please feel free to contact Jaime Malnar, by phone at 517-335-3792 or by email to malnarj1@michigan.gov.

Using Ounce Equivalents for Grains in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

The USDA's Team Nutrition initiative is pleased to announce the release of the "Using Ounce Equivalents for Grains in the Child and Adult Care Food Program" training worksheet. CACFP operators can use this colorful six-page worksheet to determine the amounts of common grain items needed to meet CACFP meal pattern requirements.

Worksheets are currently available in English online at [Training Worksheets](#).^{ix} Team Nutrition will announce the availability of Spanish and printed versions at a later date.

As part of Team Nutrition's [CACFP Halftime: Thirty on Thursdays](#)^x training webinars, there will be a webinar on this topic on Thursday, November 14, 2019.

- English webinar: 2:00 to 2:30 pm Eastern Time [[Register Now](#)]^{xi}
- Spanish webinar: 3:00 to 3:30 pm Eastern Time [[Register Now](#)]^{xii}

Michigan Apple Crunch

We're pleased to report that the Michigan Apple Crunch, as part of the Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch, exceeded our goal of 1.6 million crunches across the region! The total crunches as of October 10 (the official Crunch date) were 1,805,338!! Michigan came in third place in the Great Lakes States, contributing 322,104 collective crunches! Thank you to all who participated and demonstrated their support of Michigan agriculture. Michigan also had the highest number of adults who crunched – 46,985 and the third highest number of K-12 students at 275,119.

Remember, you can still CRUNCH and be counted throughout October, just remember to register at [Michigan Apple Crunch](#). As always, share your plans, photos from your event, and follow along on Facebook [@miapplecrunch](#) and [@michiganfarmtoinstitution](#).

Upcoming Events/Deadlines

Targeted Training for School Nutrition Professionals

The staff of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) School Nutrition Programs unit is pleased to announce a hands-on, activity-based workshop for school nutrition professionals. This workshop is targeted to food service and administrative support staff and will provide active sessions where participants can interact with MDE staff. Each site location/workshop consists of two days. Day One will cover nutrition and menu planning related information and Day Two will cover program administrative information. Please register for each day you plan to attend. Following are the dates and locations for the upcoming Targeted Training for School Nutrition Professionals:

- November 5 and 6, 2019
Networks Northwest Conference Center
1209 South Garfield Avenue, Suite E,
Traverse City, Michigan 49686
- November 12 and 13, 2019
Saginaw ISD Transitions Professional Development Center
3860 Fashion Square Blvd.,
Saginaw, Michigan 48603
- December 4 and 5, 2019
Jackson Area Career Center
6800 Browns Lake Road,
Jackson, Michigan 49201

For further information and registration information visit [Targeted Training Registration Memo^{xiii}](#)

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. Talk @ 2pm will typically be held once per month throughout 2019. 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: 31d/31f: State Supplemental Payments

- Understanding state supplemental monies

When: Tuesday, November 5, 2019 – 2:00 pm

To Register: [Talk @ 2pm - 31d/31f: State Supplemental Payments Webinar Registration^{xiv}](#)

Topic: How to Feed Kids on Break

- We will help answer your questions if NSLP, SFSP, or CACFP are the best fit for feeding kids during school breaks.
- Not participating in a program yet? We can help you get started.

When: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 – 2:00 pm

To Register: [Talk at 2 pm - How to Feed Kids on Break Webinar Registration^{xv}](#)

Topic: Meal Quality

- How to improve your program's meal quality
- What to look for when menu planning
- Examples of menu items "outside of the box" and taste testing
- Best Practices throughout Michigan and scratch cooking: How-to

When: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 – 2:00 pm

To Register: [Talk at 2pm Meal Quality Webinar Registration^{xvi}](#)

Topic: Making Data Work For You

- Using infographics and interpreting school data

When: Tuesday, December 3, 2019 – 2:00 pm

To Register: [Talk at 2 pm Making Data Work For You Webinar Registration^{xvii}](#)

Topic: In's and Out's of USDA Foods

- Learn how USDA Foods entitlement is calculated
- Learn how to monitor entitlement balances on your PAL Report
- Learn the different USDA Foods programs to allocate entitlement to
- Discuss how to maximize your USDA Foods dollars

When: Tuesday, December 17, 2019 – 2:00 pm

To Register: [Talk at 2 pm In's and Out's of USDA Foods Webinar^{xviii}](#)

Questions and Answers

Question: My building principals are requesting a list of the free and reduced-price students for their buildings. Is there a reason why the principal would need to know who the students specifically are?

Answer: In addition to being authorized to receive information, those requesting eligibility information must have a "need to know" which refers to persons determined to be "directly connected" with the administration or enforcement of a federal education program. For instance, while federal education programs are authorized, not all persons administering an education program in the school district need to access information (e.g., teachers, principals, or guidance counselors). State and local agencies must ensure that persons receiving a child's free and reduced-price eligibility information have a legitimate need to know. Additional information regarding confidentiality and disclosure requirements can be found in the Eligibility Manual for School Meals starting on page 83.

Question: My PTA wants a list of eligible students to provide holiday baskets or angel tree donations. Can I provide the names?

Answer: No. The Sharing Information form could be provided to families to inquire if they are interested in receiving a donation from the school. If the parent or guardian gives permission to share the information, you can provide those names.

ⁱ<https://www.fns.usda.gov/usda-fis/2019-show-us-your-tray-photo-contest-winners>

ⁱⁱ<https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/2020%20Photo%20Contest%20Info%20Sheet.pdf>

ⁱⁱⁱhttps://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/SY_2017-2018_Program_Requirements_Calendar_602723_7.pdf

^{iv}<https://www.fns.usda.gov/areaeligibility>

^v<http://data-cacfp-sfsp.opendata.arcgis.com/>

^{vi}<https://www.fns.usda.gov/area-eligibility-child-nutrition-programs>

^{vii}https://s3.amazonaws.com/abtsurvey.com/24635-9204/Census_Preparation_Worksheet.pdf

^{viii}https://s3.amazonaws.com/abtsurvey.com/24635-9204/Census_Preparation_Worksheet.pdf

^{ix}<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/meal-pattern-training-worksheets-cacfp>

^x<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/halftime-cacfp-thirty-thursdays-training-webinar-series>

^{xi}https://usda-fns.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=usda-fns&service=6&rnd=0.28632488333651096&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fusda-fns.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26%26EMK%3D4832534b000000025b34ed649069c325f3b6e38c5d2cc4daa0ad331722c6cf2cebd62

9d2ec1db421%26siteurl%3Dusda-fns%26confViewID%3D142132831487811261%26encryptTicket%3DSDJTSwAAAAISqYdMhM-DulaYOzvv4LKcUWesj-TQ_SqxJ7JbOaH2cg2%26

^{xii} https://usda-fns.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=usda-fns&service=6&rnd=0.15140838971158355&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fusda-fns.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26%26%26EMK%3D4832534b00000002015e324da9bdca36c0ae6ecddfcaa5630a514ece388c1af4d6fce4556e223a8%26siteurl%3Dusda-fns%26confViewID%3D142561464880749884%26encryptTicket%3DSDJTSwAAAALV1HVthaIiTJLWY8n7OE8KvYiPhfpL-DgkaWh3pB8VWg2%26

^{xiii} https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Targeted_Training_Registration_Memo_666636_7.pdf

^{xiv} <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/talk-at-2pm-webinar-31d31f-state-supplemental-payments-registration-76972814761>

^{xv} <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/talk-at-2pm-webinar-how-to-feed-kids-on-break-registration-77295425699>

^{xvi} <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/talk-at-2pm-webinar-how-to-feed-kids-on-break-registration-77295425699>

^{xvii} <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/talk-at-2pm-webinar-making-data-work-for-you-registration-77108025179>

^{xviii} <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/talk-at-2pm-webinar-ins-and-outs-of-usda-foods-registration-77114017101>