

From: MDE-SchoolNutrition
Sent: Friday, October 26, 2012 1:49 PM
To: MDE-SchoolNutrition
Subject: Weekly News from MDE 102612

The following is sent on behalf of Howard Leikert, Supervisor, School Nutrition Programs, Office of School Support Services.

- 1) Special Milk Programs - While SFAs don't need a food safety inspection if they are participating in the Special Milk Program only, they will still need to have a Food Safety Program in place. Here's the USDA memo that addresses Food Safety Programs. <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/Policy-Memos/2011/SP37-2011.pdf>
- 2) Guidance on Procurement Procedures for United States Department of Agriculture Child Nutrition Programs – Due to USDA memoranda and recent Michigan legislation, procurement procedures have been modified resulting in the issuance of Administrative Policy #6. This is an update to a prior year Administrative Policy. Here is the link to the new policy - http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/6_Administrative_Policy_on_Procurement_402024_7.pdf
- 3) Detroit Lions Game – Yup, nothing better than heading downtown, strolling into Ford Field, grabbing a delicious brat, and drinking down a nice, cold....Milk!! United Dairy Industry of Michigan (UDIM) has made this all possible - Are you a New Look of School Milk (milk in plastic) district? Would you like to win 4 tickets to watch the Detroit Lions beat the Indianapolis Colts on December 2nd? UDIM is updating their New Look of School Milk database. Please email Deanne Kelleher @ dkelleher@udim.org if your school(s) is still offering milk in plastic by November 21st to be entered into the drawing. The winner will be notified on November 26th.
- 4) Hummus - Hummus is not in the Food Buying Guide (FBG) because there is no standard of identity for it. It can vary from manufacturer to manufacturer or recipe to recipe, depending on the ingredients. It is correct that ½ cup of hummus does not really credit as ½ cup of legumes. If you are using a manufactured product, you should obtain the amount of vegetable (chickpeas) in the product from the manufacturer on a product formulation statement (or CN label). Otherwise, they should have a standardized recipe on file that indicates how much legume is in each serving. There needs to be at least 1/8 cup (here in Michigan 1/4c) in each serving to credit as a vegetable. The other thing to consider is that if tahini is used in the recipe that can also be counted as part of the M/MA contribution, which would not be the case for the vegetable contribution.
- 5) USDA Newsletter - The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has just released its latest School Programs USDA Foods Update Newsletter for

October 2012. The newsletter is available at the following link:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/news/schupdates.htm>

- 6) SNAM Conference - Mark your calendars for the School Nutrition Association of Michigan annual conference on November 9, 2012 through November 11, 2012. Enjoy a great professional development weekend with wonderful guest speakers, informative education sessions and a great food show. MDE will also have a networking session on Friday afternoon. Hope to see you there. Register today - flyer attached.
- 7) 6 Cent Certification Updated Tool - FNS has issued an extended version of the Grades 6-8 5-day lunch Certification Tool for SFAs with over 50 meals for the week. The extended version allows for 100 meals over the week and 40 meals each day. You can access this worksheet on the School Meals public site at
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/Legislation/certificationofcompliance.htm>
- 8) Great Start Readiness Program – Attached is a very informative document covering the specific requirements for how students qualify for free and reduced meals, how they should be counted and claimed, and other important information including its relationship to CACFP. If you have a GSRP in your district, please take the time to read this information.
- 9) Simple Question/Complex Answers – One of your fellow Food Service Directors sent me a simple question without a simple answer....how can I get more families to participate in the school lunch program? I am willing to pass on any suggestions you may have!! I can even include them in the next weekly news!

Enough for now. Hope you have a great weekend!

Howard Leikert, MBA, SNS

Supervisor
School Nutrition Programs
Michigan Department of Education
517-373-3892
517-373-4022 Fax

Supporting achievement for EVERY student through a Proficiency-Based system of education.

Great Start Readiness Program

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) funds may only be used to cover the costs of classroom meals and snacks when the item entered into the GSRP budget represents the difference between the estimated cost of providing meals and snacks and the estimated reimbursement from the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) and/or the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) as applicable. GSRP grantees **must** use NSLP, SBP and/or CACFP to recoup the maximum reimbursement available to them before expending GSRP funds for the provision of meals and snacks. The cost of meals for the GSRP teaching team members, who are expected to join the children in family style meals, may be included in the GSRP portion of the meal/snack budget item. The meal counting procedures for family style meals must be in accordance with current NSLP, SBP, and/or CACFP regulations. Generally, Offer Versus Serve (OVS) is not considered appropriate for preschool children because it may interfere with Program nutrition goals and the institution's efforts to introduce new foods to children.

National School Lunch Program

According to the United States Department of Agriculture *Eligibility Manual For School Meals* (October 2011), children enrolled in state-funded pre-kindergarten classes using identical or more stringent eligibility criteria than the Federal Head Start Program are categorically eligible to receive free meals through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP), where applicable.

GSRP students are eligible to participate in the NSLP and the SBP where applicable. GSRP students in Michigan are not, however, categorically eligible to receive free meals through these programs due to an income requirement less stringent than that of the Federal Head Start Program. Rather, the fiscal agent, in collaboration with the consortium member(s) implementing the grant, is required to retain the appropriate eligibility documentation (i.e., Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application). Students in alternative pre-kindergarten programs, which are operating in district buildings, but are **not** fiscally administered by the district, are not eligible to participate in NSLP or SBP, where available.

Students that do not qualify for free meals based on income determination **must not** be charged for any portion of the meal. The difference between the federal reimbursement rate and the actual cost of the meal may be charged to the GSRP program budget if reduced and full-pay GSRP students are served meals.

Qualifying breakfasts and lunches served to GSRP children may be claimed for federal reimbursement. In order to claim these reimbursements, each fiscal agent must identify, through the consortium option detailed above, districts/buildings where NSLP and SBP are available to GSRP students and allow individual districts to

independently serve, count, and claim for federal reimbursement qualifying breakfasts and lunches to GSRP students through their existing State Agency-approved sponsorship of NSLP and SBP.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) students are eligible to participate in the CACFP where applicable. GSRP students in Michigan are not, however, categorically eligible to receive free meals through the CACFP due to an income requirement less stringent than that of the Federal Head Start Program. Rather, the fiscal agent, in collaboration with the consortium member(s) implementing the grant, is required to retain the appropriate eligibility documentation (i.e., Free and Reduced Price School Meal Family Application) and must claim the participants in the appropriate category on monthly claims per the Free and Reduced Price School Meal Family Application.

Students that do not qualify for free meals based on income determination **must not** be charged for any portion of the meal. The difference between the federal reimbursement rate and the actual cost of the meal may be charged to the GSRP program budget if reduced and full-pay GSRP students are served meals.

Qualifying breakfasts, lunches, and snacks served to GSRP children may be claimed for federal reimbursement in the CACFP. In order to claim these meal and snack reimbursements, each fiscal agent must:

- Enter into an agreement to become a State Agency-approved sponsor of the CACFP. The approved sponsor should:
 - Establish all individual buildings serving qualifying meals and snacks to GSRP students on the sponsor application as "sites."
 - Collect and retain GSRP meal and snack counts and related records for individual sites per CACFP regulations.
 - File consolidated monthly claims for all participating sites for reimbursement of meals and snacks served to GSRP participants.

Reporting

It is the responsibility of the fiscal agent to ensure that each GSRP student is accurately reported in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS). So long as they are reported, such reporting may be done by either the district in which the student is receiving services or the Intermediate School District (ISD), which acts as the administrator and fiscal agent to the Great Start Readiness Program. The Center for Educational and Performance Information (CEPI) uses the Supplemental

Nutrition Eligibility (SNE) component to report the student's status as eligible for free or reduced-price milk or meals through the National School Lunch Program. Multiple State of Michigan offices use these data in the determination of sub-groups and as the poverty indicator for districts. If the student is eligible for meal services through the National School Lunch Program, they are to be reported in the SNE field in MSDS. Conversely, if they are **only** eligible for meal services through the Child and Adult Care Food Program, they are **not** to be counted in the SNE field.

For Further Information

To request more information about any of the above referenced programs, please contact:

Great Start Readiness Program
517-373-8483
MDE-GSRP@michigan.gov
www.michigan.gov/gsrp

School Nutrition Programs
517-373-3347
MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov
www.michigan.gov/schoolnutrition

Child and Adult Care Food Program
517-373-7391
www.michigan.gov/cacfp