



Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

August 2025 Newsletter

Highlights in this month's newsletter:

- Recipe Ideas
- Training Opportunities
- Inside the MDE CACFP
- 10 Cents a Meal

Central and South American Inspired CACFP Recipe Ideas

Red Rice and Beans



Ages 3-5: Serving Size $\frac{3}{4}$ cup

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz eq meat alternate, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup vegetable and $\frac{1}{2}$ oz eq grain OR legume as vegetable: no eq meat alternate and $\frac{5}{8}$ cup vegetable and $\frac{1}{2}$ oz eq grains

Full recipe found here:

<http://bit.ly/4fVEvMn>

Spinach and Bean Quesadilla



Ages 3-5: Serving Size 2 wedges or $\frac{1}{2}$ quesadilla

$\frac{1}{2}$ oz equivalent meat alternate, $\frac{1}{4}$ vegetable and 1 oz equivalent grains OR Legume as Vegetable: 1 oz eq meat alternate, $\frac{3}{8}$ cup vegetable, 1 oz eq grains
Full recipe found here: <http://bit.ly/41KTsei>

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you."

– B.B. King



Thinking Thursday Webinar – Identify Whole Grains

August 28, 2025, 2 – 3 pm

Learn how to identify whole grains, including credible grains vs. non-credible grains, and how to add a variety of whole grains to your CACFP menu.

Registration is required for this free one-hour session; attend the entire session to receive a certificate for your participation.

Register here:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qgcckdH7Q_y-qtNVdzTyZA

Additional Trainings

Can't make the live Thinking Thursdays? Check out our previously recorded Thinking Thursdays here:

www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/cacfp/forms-content/thinking-thursdays.

MDE has numerous online modules that you can take at your own pace and at a time that's convenient for you! Here are just a few to help get you started with the upcoming school year. Feel free to use them for your annual staff trainings.

- CACFP Recordkeeping for Sponsoring Organizations
- CACFP On-Line Recordkeeping for Independent Centers
- CACFP: Creditable Menus
- CNP: Civil Rights

All MDE CACFP training modules can be found here:

www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/cacfp/topics/trainings/cacfp-trainings.

Additional News Inside MDE CACFP

Important Information from our CACFP Department!

Are you or someone in your organization missing out on important CACFP communications? If so, please sign up using this link, then choose the two categories below:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscribers/new?preferences=true>

- MDE-CACFP
- Child Nutrition Programs

From our Procurement Department: CACFP Agreements

Many CACFP Sponsors rely on a school district or another department within their organization, to provide meals for participants. MDE has revised the agreement template used for this process.

The updated template is available on our website [Food Service Contracts](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/procurement-and-contracts/food-service-contracts) (www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/procurement-and-contracts/food-service-contracts), under the "CACFP Agreement with a Non-Commercial Vendor" link.

This must be used for FY 2026 and uploaded into the Coordinated Application in NexSys. For questions about this agreement template, please contact MDE-FSMC-Vended@michigan.gov.

From our Farm to Program Department:

10 Cents a Meal for Michigan's Kids and Farms 2025-2026 Application

The 2025-2026 program year application for 10 Cents a Meal is still available in NexSys through **Wednesday, September 17, 2025**. Sponsors participating in the National School Lunch Program/School Breakfast program (NSLP/SBP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), or Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) are eligible to apply.

10 Cents a Meal reimburses 50% of the cost of buying and serving Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and dry beans in meals and educational activities for children. Grantees can also use up to 25% of their grant award to receive 100% reimbursement for transportation and labor expenses such as delivery fees, mileage costs, and part time labor expenses that support the goals of the program.

How to Apply

The 2025-2026 application is available in NexSys and **must be initiated and submitted by a level 5 NexSys user**. The maximum possible award is 10 cents times every meal served in child nutrition programs the prior year.

A 2025-2026 Application Scoring Rubric is available that provides applicants with what the Farm to Program team will be looking for when scoring applications. The rubric contains guidance on what details to include in responses to the application questions. The guidance is provided on the Program Information page to receive a higher application score. All applicants should refer to the rubric as they complete the application. 50% of an applicant's score will consist of the Program Information page responses and any bonus points for submitting the application early. The Rubric can be found here: www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/office-of-health-and-nutrition-services/10-cents-a-meal-for-michigans-kids-and-farms/how-to-apply.

50% of the application score for returning applicants is based on their ability to spend their requested award for the 2024-2025 program year and complete the required reporting surveys. New grantees will be given a boost in past performance points.

Application Resources

The 2025-2026 in-person program and application training sessions have ended, but a recorded version of the training, along with the scoring rubric

and virtual application walkthrough, is available on the How to Apply page (www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/office-of-health-and-nutrition-services/10-cents-a-meal-for-michigans-kids-and-farms/how-to-apply).

Questions?

For questions about the 10 Cents a Meal program and application, please contact the Farm to Program team at MDE-FarmtoProgram@Michigan.gov.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. Mail:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. Fax:
(833) 256-166 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. Email:
Program.Intake@usda.gov

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