



# Child and Adult Care Food Program

(CACFP) November 2024 Newsletter

## USDA Celebrates National School Lunch Week and Farm to School Month

From apple crunches and local lunches to special themed scratch-cooked meals, school districts across the nation added to the excitement of National Farm to School (F2S) Month by finding creative ways to celebrate National School Lunch Week (NSLW) during the week of October 14-18. Established by President John F. Kennedy in 1962, NSLW is an annual observance that promotes the importance of a healthy school lunch in a child's life and the impact it has both in and out of the classroom.

This year, USDA celebrated NSLW with a big focus on local foods in school meals. On October 15, 2024, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack emphasized USDA's ongoing commitment to connecting local farmers and producers with schools nationwide and USDA summarized the Department's major investments to support these efforts.

Read the full press release on the USDA website: [Major USDA Investments in Local Foods Strengthen School Meals](#) along with the [President's Proclamation on National School Lunch Week](#).

**Fall is upon us! Celebrate with a new recipe**

## Check out CACFP Recipes

Available in English and Spanish on the [Child Nutrition Recipe Box](#) Site.



[Beef Taco Pie](#)

(Meat, Vegetable, Whole Grain)



Fall Virtual Instructor Led Training (VILT) sessions are now open!

The Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) is offering virtual training sessions for individuals this fall. There are topics for school nutrition professionals and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) operators.

Topics Include:

- Using Ounce Equivalents for Grains in the CACFP
- Introduction to School Nutrition Leadership: Meal Accommodations
- Introduction to Happy Mealtimes in Childcare Settings
- Utilizing the Cafeteria as a Classroom
- Introduction to School Nutrition Leadership: Customer Experience, Merchandising and Food Presentation

Visit ICN's [Virtual Instructor-Led Trainings \(VILTS\)](#) page to find topics and to register.

Don't wait, these sessions fill quickly!

Email [training@theicn.org](mailto:training@theicn.org) if you need assistance or have any questions.

## System Access Help

The Michigan Department of Education's Office of Nutrition Services is currently experiencing a transition with staff. Please be advised that responses to any system and/or access related questions may be delayed.

In the meantime, you may be able to find the answer(s) you need on our website.

- If you are unsure of what system you need access to, you can find a summary of each of the systems and what they do under [“Summary of Child Nutrition Program Systems”](#).
- If you need step by step instructions for getting access to a system, you can find instructions under [“Steps to Child Nutrition Program System Access”](#).
- You can find ALL of the system help documents under [“Child Nutrition Program – System Help Documents”](#).

The new mailbox for all system and access related questions is [MDE-ONS-Access@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-ONS-Access@michigan.gov).

# Child and Adult Care Food Program

## Online Modules



- CACFP: An Introduction to Procurement
- CACFP: Creditable Menus
- CACFP: Feeding Infants
- CACFP: Recordkeeping for Sponsoring Organizations
- CACFP: Recordkeeping for Independent Centers
- CACFP: Sponsoring Organizations Oversight and Site Monitoring Responsibilities

### Online Training Modules

## USDA Policy Updates

Please see the following updated policy memos for Fiscal Year 2024.

- CACFP 06-2024
- CACFP 07-2024
- CACFP 08-2024
- CACFP 09-2024

Visit the [“Family Day Care Home Sponsor Memos”](#) section of the CACFP website to review memos.

## Thinking Thursdays

### CACFP Meal Pattern Basics

Join us for a webinar on November 21, 2024, at 2:00 PM

Register Here: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_u\\_G8gpFMSGWi\\_gLG1o7qnw](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u_G8gpFMSGWi_gLG1o7qnw)





# Scholarships Available

Apply today at [cacfp.org/scholarships](https://www.cacfp.org/scholarships).

**CHILD NUTRITION  
CONFERENCE**  
CACFP - AFTERSCHOOL MEALS - SUMMER FOOD

## Scholarships Available

The National CACFP Association is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2025 National Child Nutrition Conference (NCNC) which is being held April 14-18, in Dallas, Texas. The scholarship application is available at

<https://www.cacfp.org/conference/scholarships/>.

Fifteen scholarships will be awarded: Seven to attend the conference in-person, and eight to attend virtually. In-person scholarships will include conference registration, four (4) nights' lodging at the conference hotel, and up to \$450.00 towards transportation costs.

Applications close on January 10, 2025, at 11:59 pm Eastern. For questions, please email [conference@cacfp.org](mailto:conference@cacfp.org).

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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) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

3. email:

Program.Intake@usda.gov

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