

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Newsletter October 2023

Michigan Apple Crunch

Celebrate Michigan apples and National Farm to School Month by participating in the annual Michigan Apple Crunch. The 2023 Michigan Apple Crunch will take place on **Thursday, October 12, 2023**. Registration is now OPEN!

Anyone can crunch and no event is too small to register! Crunch with your K-12 school, early care and education site, homeschool group, workplace, family, or organization on October 12, 2023, or anytime in October. When you register you will receive an updated copy of the Crunch Guide and your event will be counted to help us meet the goal of **400,000 crunches** in Michigan this year.

Registration and more information can be found at **Michigan Apple Crunch**.



Menu Ideas

Check out CACFP recipes available in English and Spanish on the Child Nutrition Recipe Box site.

Thinking Thursdays Webinar

Join us for October's Zoom webinar.

When:

October 26, 2023, at 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Infants

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/ webinar/register/ WN_Rk7DWsDrQXaKTZfce _RVDA

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email

containing information about joining the webinar.

Serving Traditional Indigenous Foods in Child Nutrition Programs

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) created a new webpage to house technical assistance resources and policy quidance focused on serving traditional Indigenous Foods in the Child Nutrition Programs, such as the CACFP. Resources include the Crediting in Child Nutrition Programs Tip Sheet series, Crediting Handbook for the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs, Gardens in Tribal Communities fact sheet, and USDA standardized recipes. The USDA has also released an update to the Food Buying Guide for the Child Nutrition Programs that allows users to search for traditional Indigenous foods such as tepary beans, dandelion greens, and pheasant that are similar to foods currently included in the Food Buying Guide. Explore the serving <u>Traditional</u> **Indigenous Foods** webpage.

10 Cents A Meal for Michigan's Kids & Farms, a state-funded program, matches what schools, early care and education sites, and other non-school sponsors spend on Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables, and dry beans with grants multiplying total meals served by 10 cents. Any center that participates in CACFP directly (not through a sponsor) is eligible. If you participate through another sponsor, talk to them about participation.

Here's an example: if you receive a \$500 grant, you submit receipts for up to \$1,000 over the year for Michigan-grown produce, and you can be reimbursed for half! There is no penalty for not spending your whole grant, and you are probably already buying some eligible products. The application for the 2023-2024 program year will be available soon in NexSys.

Want to learn more? Check out this interactive <u>overview</u>, or contact <u>MDE-FarmtoProgram@Michigan.gov</u> with questions.

10 Cents a Meal Program Application Trainings

Did you know there are state dollars available for CACFP sponsors who purchase Michigan-grown minimally processed fruits, vegetables, and dry beans for meals? Are you interested in finding out more about 10 Cents a Meal for Michigan's Kids and Farms? Heard it was too much work? Need help completing your application?

Registration is now available for 2023 -2024 program year training including hands-on application assistance. Any sponsor that participates directly with MDE for a child nutrition program is eligible. If you participate through a sponsor, ask them to attend. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required.

Join us for a workshop to learn how 10 Cents a Meal works, how to source local produce, and what is needed to participate. Bring your laptop if you would like help with completing your application during the session, or just bring your questions.

Wayne RESA - Monday, October 23, 2023, 2pm < Registration Link >

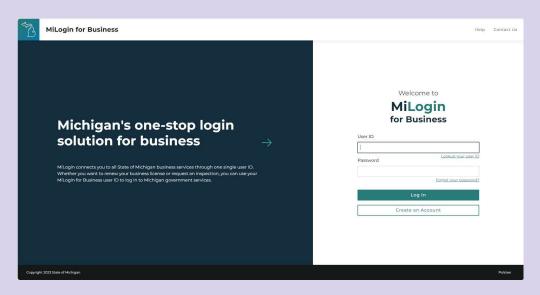
Wayne RESA - Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 6pm <Registration Link >

Kent ISD - Thursday, October 26, 2023, 2pm < Registration Link >



Now Available! New yields are now available in the Food Buying Guide (FBG) for Child Nutrition Programs Interactive Web-based Tool and FBG Mobile App! New yield data is available for: individually quick-frozen (IQF) black beans, IQF pinto beans, roasted soybeans, roasted chickpeas, fresh oranges, grape tomatoes, and ready-to-use diced and sliced onions. Stay tuned for additional yield data releases coming soon. Explore the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs today!

COMING SOON: MILogin for Third Party will be changing its name to MILogin for Business. Your MILogin home page will have a completely new look and feel. This change is expected take place before the end of the year and will enhance the user experience. MDE will pass along any updates as they are received.



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