

## Michigan Department of Education Office of Health and Nutrition Services Town Hall Q&A

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### Helpful Links

Help documents for linking MiLogin and other topics:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/child-nutrition-program-system-help-documents>

New Supply Chain Challenges webpage:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/sntp/topics/supply-chain-challenges>

MDE Direct Certification: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/sntp/topics/direct-certification>

CEPI Direct Certification Calendar: <https://www.michigan.gov/cepi/0,4546,7-113-72089---,00.html>

NKH Toolkit: [http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/Strategies%20to%20Maximize%20Completed%20School%20Meal%20Applications%20During%20COVID-19\\_0.pdf](http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/sites/default/files/2020-10/Strategies%20to%20Maximize%20Completed%20School%20Meal%20Applications%20During%20COVID-19_0.pdf)

NexSys Child Nutrition Coordinated Application: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/office-of-health-and-nutrition-services/nexsys-child-nutrition-coordinated-application>

Food Assistance for Michigan Children, Families and Individuals:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/sntp/parent-family/topics/food-assistance-for-michigan-children-families-and-individuals>

Michigan School Meals: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/michigan-school-meals>

Best Food Forward: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/best-food-forward>

School Nutrition Programs Compliance Review List School Year 2022-2023:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/ohns/School-Nutrition-Programs/Administrative-Reviews/SY-2022-2023-AR-list-for-website.pdf?rev=00198b9783084ce38a4340d81c05a773&hash=097DF90D17E6292B5AC6277F7B151AB9>

## Q&A

### School Year 2023-24

When is the application due for Residential? RCCIs need to have their Coordinated Application submitted by the June 29, 2023, to have a July 2023 available on time to claim. You can email us at [MDE-SFS@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SFS@michigan.gov).

Is there a cost for the SNP training? That depends on the type of training and how it is offered. Some in person trainings do have an associated charge. All current online trainings are available for free.

When is the application for NSLP due and when will it be available in Nexsys? The application is currently available in NexSys. Here are the due dates: Thursday, June 29th, for a July claim, Thursday, July 27th, for an August claim, Thursday, August 31st, for a September claim, and Thursday, September 28th, for an October claim.

If you will be participating in SFSP this summer, then the due date is May 18th.

### School Year 2022-23

When will coordinated application be due? The due dates will be rolling. If you need the SFSP program, that is the earliest due May. We will provide a chart with the due dates very soon.

Did the USDA give any reason why they did not approve the Waiver to feed all students FREE? I see that many other States have. Congress did not provide the opportunity to extend the waiver. Some States are providing State funding so kids can eat for free. Our State has not. Some school districts are opting to pay for students as well using their General Fund dollars.

Are Administrative reviews on hold this year? No, they will resume this year. The list is being finalized by staff and will be available this fall. Reviews should start after January 1, 2023. AR/RM Review List: [SY 2022-2023 Compliance Review List \(michigan.gov\)](#)<sup>1</sup>

Does congregate meals mean in the cafeteria only on onsite only? Congregate meals include the cafeteria, classroom, other onsite locations within the buildings that are allowable for them to congregate during the meal service times. That could include outside courtyards.

Can a location be congregate and non-congregate through SFSP? Non-congregate meals are only for counties that are designated as rural. Please email the SFSP Team at [mde-sfsp@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-sfsp@michigan.gov) with your specific situation.

How do I determine correct reimbursement rate to use? I am a CEP district and served over 60% free prior to the pandemic. Here is a link in this memo that will help you determine which reimbursement rate you are eligible for. <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/ohns/School-Nutrition-Programs/Administrative-Memos/SY-2022-2023/Admin-Memo-No-1-Reimbursement-Rates-SY-2022-23.pdf?rev=d54c24d1e5784bb5a345e277eb332bac&hash=F7BB6822485F3F0E1EF3D79A11F1139F>

What percentage do we have to be to be CEP and how do we get that percentage? Email Natalee at [mickelsonn@michigan.gov](mailto:mickelsonn@michigan.gov) additional information can be found here: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/cep>

Is there a chart we can print out for our target 1 sodium and whole grain rich for breakfast & lunch? This chart includes the sodium amounts: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/nslp/national-school-lunch-program-meal-pattern-chart> and <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sbp/meal-pattern-chart>

We are CEP and did SSO. Do I still use as far back as 2019 for eligibility for the first 30 days? When a CEP school decides to resume standard counting and claiming procedures between school years, all students in that school have a carryover for the first 30 operating days at the beginning of the new school year or until a new eligibility determination is made, whichever comes first. Meals served to students during this time are claimed at the free rate.

When will we receive the new income guidelines? They are available and posted: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/Services/food/sntp/topics/free-and-reduced-price-school-meals-application>

Where do we find the income guidelines for HIR? <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/ohns/School-Nutrition-Programs/Free-and-Reduced-Application/7---Income-Eligibility-Guidelines-2022-23---ADA.pdf?rev=462bb484f6c6488bbe22748af36d0db6&hash=F23DD148B9AE16F10F0DD45118232B2A>

Can you elaborate more on the 80% whole grains? Is it by station or just by the whole menu? Each serving line needs to offer 80% whole grain rich each week.

Is there a number of days the 2021-2022 free and reduced-price meal application carries over in the SY 2022-2023? Specifically, how long do they have in July to get their new application in? Carryover is for the first 30 operating days into the next school year.

If I have food at the end of my meal service, I am not allowed to offer to students rather than throw in trash? Correct, that leftover food cannot be given away free of charge.

I thought you could donate to homeless shelters, as the Health Dept is supporting that. [You can donate to 501C3 organizations. Please email MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov for more information.](#)

Any word on if the CEP multiplier of 1.6% will change? [There is no current legislation to change the multiplier. That was part of Build Back Better. That potential legislation is stalled.](#)

Our students leave milk and or fruit on a share table once they pass the point of sale. This is allowable, correct? This is how some students are able to have more than one milk or fruit at no cost? [Consult your local health department to ensure that Share Tables are allowed in your sites. Share tables are a part of the SFSP.](#)

How much change will there be to the Household Information Report (HIR)? [There are two forms. The one that has annual income ranges requires changes based on the IEGs. The version with household size and income has fewer changes. The forms will be available around June 1, 2022.](#)

Can the summer meal app be configured to work for CEP in the future? [MDE is currently developing a new meal counting app to assist with more capabilities. Be on the lookout for the Child Nutrition Program Count App.](#)

Do we need to get a new HIR every year? [Yes, those should be collected yearly.](#)

Where do we find/what form do we use to know that we are in the correct sodium levels? [USDA is working on updating the spreadsheet. We will share it when it is available.](#)

Is the milk included in the sodium total? [Yes, all foods served with the meal are included in the sodium count.](#)

Will we be able have breakfast in the classroom next year? [Yes, you can have breakfast in the classroom next year.](#)

I do not enter data into CEPI, but do process the determinations. What data does CEPI need/collect in regards to eligibility for free/reduced meals? 1) Is it more beneficial for a student to be free per application (financial) or by direct cert (if they are free due to either)? 2) If a student is in a CEP program, does the person entering data into CEPI always use that or is there any benefit to being eligible by their HI Report? [If a student is free eligible by direct certification you do not need a school meals application or HIR to make a determination. Here is a resource that explains how the CEPI reporting works: \[https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/Year/2021/06/22/SNE\\\_Document.pdf?rev=deeb36e1fb624b44be0c5825fad88fa8&hash=5505133E4A9CF176053DAAE0D832F526\]\(https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/Year/2021/06/22/SNE\_Document.pdf?rev=deeb36e1fb624b44be0c5825fad88fa8&hash=5505133E4A9CF176053DAAE0D832F526\). If you have additional questions, please email \[mickelsonn@michigan.gov\]\(mailto:mickelsonn@michigan.gov\).](#)

Are Non-public reimbursement corrected? [The fix for the claim issue where you don't have a place to enter meal counts is supposed to be fixed any time now. We will be emailing any sponsor that reported it to us once I confirm that the fix happened. Please email \[groothuism@michigan.gov\]\(mailto:groothuism@michigan.gov\) if you have questions.](#)

Is chocolate & white milk a requirement for breakfast? [The requirement is a variety of milk--so 2 kinds are needed. That can be flavor or fat content. If you are serving chocolate milk, then the other has to be white milk.](#)

Can we offer pea protein milk, like Ripple milk, as an alternative to dairy milk? Yes, Ripple is an approved fluid milk substitute. The nutrition meets the requirements and is nutritionally equivalent to cow's milk. Check out the last page of the Guide: [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/Year/2021/06/22/Special\\_Diet\\_Guide\\_2-2021.pdf?rev=02b0d9a926044908b4fdd0417a9a4837&hash=8106F069C88E6A992850BD5E5867455C](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/Year/2021/06/22/Special_Diet_Guide_2-2021.pdf?rev=02b0d9a926044908b4fdd0417a9a4837&hash=8106F069C88E6A992850BD5E5867455C)

If we serve Ripple milk, do we still weigh and measure on the production sheet? When using a fluid milk substitute, it should be a 1 cup portion like regular milk and should be listed on the production sheet.

If a family was pulled for verification and they ignore the mail/email/phone calls. Then they reapply for F&R do I need to do anything or how do I handle it? If benefits to a household have been terminated because of failure to complete the verification process and the household reapplies in the same school year, the household is required to submit income documentation or proof of participation in Assistance Programs at the time of reapplication.

Will the local foods grant go in conjunction with the supply chain funds? No, you cannot submit supply assistance chain fund purchases to the Local Food for School (LFS) Program. However, these funds/purchases can count towards 10cents.

Severe need at lunch for the breakfast grant? For a school to be severe need, 40% or more of NSLP lunches served at the school were served to free and reduced-price eligible students. The eligibility is from the school year 2019-2020.

If we have a student that "chooses" to be virtual, and qualifies for free lunches, thinks that being that they can't get meals offsite, they should have a credit card with the dollar amount of the meals that they are not getting. What do I tell them? There is not a provision/program for students who are attending non-brick and mortar/virtual. There is currently no P-EBT for these students either.

What is considered severe need for the breakfast grant? To qualify as a potential sub-recipient, a school must be considered "severe need." For a school to be severe need, 40% or more of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) lunches served at the school were served to free and reduced-price eligible students. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is using severe need and eligibility data from SY 2019-2020 (FY 2020).

If a family was pulled for verification and they ignore the mail/email/phone calls. Then they reapply for F&R do I need to do anything or how do I handle it? If benefits to a household have been terminated because of failure to complete the verification process and the household reapplies in the same school year, the household is required to submit income documentation or proof of participation in Assistance Programs at the time of reapplication.

Where can I find the SBP Expansion Grant Webpage? SBP Expansion Grant Webpage: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/sntp/breakfast/topics/resources/school-breakfast-program-expansion-grant>

What is considered severe need for the breakfast grant? To qualify as a potential sub-recipient, a school must be considered "severe need." For a school to be severe need, 40% or more of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) lunches served at the school were served to free and reduced-price eligible

students. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is using severe need and eligibility data from SY 2019-2020 (FY 2020).

Will more info come out on the LFS funds that will be available? Yes, the MDE Food Distribution website now has a recorded training available along with FAQ and the SFA allocations.

We are a CEP district (1st year) and plan to continue for the 23-24 year. Will we need to apply for SFSP? Yes, you will need to apply for SFSP, it is a separate program from CEP and National School Lunch/School Breakfast Programs. If you have a summer school program, then potentially you can operate the program through Extended School Year. And, if you happen to be CEP that program would continue for those summer school students. Please contact your analyst for further clarification.

Is Michigan applesauce something we can put towards the local food grant funds? Applesauce is canned, so it does not qualify for LFS, but does for Supply Chain Assistance funds.

Can items be submitted to both LFS and 10 cents? Yes, if the items qualify for 10 Cent a Meal.

If free meals are given to children, am I understanding it correctly that private schools will not be included? At this time, private schools are not included in the Governor's proposal. We do not know how things will look in a final budget but please let your state legislators know how you feel.

Can we serve our regular virtual students that are online? The new 12(I) waiver limit it to 10 days. So regular virtual students would not be allowed.

Do you have a timeframe when the new reimbursement rates will be released? NSLP reimbursement rates are typically released by the USDA in July or August.

## Fiscal

Do we have to complete an exemption form if we have a positive fund balance? Or are you saying we don't have to do anything? You do not have to do anything but save documentation of your positive fund balance as of 6/30/2022. You will be asked to respond to a PLE Poll this fall as well.

Where is the Excess Fund Balance Carryover request form found? I didn't see it on the resources page. Carryover requests are indicated by item within the spend down plan of action form in GEMS/MARS.

When will excess fund balance forms be approved, so we can order things and book people? We are processing them as quickly as we can. Typically, you can proceed without waiting for approval from us. As long as the items you are purchasing are allowable. If an equipment request is needed, you can proceed with requesting prior approval now. <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/fiscal-admin/topics/equipment-and-excess-fund-balance>

If a district has a negative account for the first time since COVID but was previously non-pricing, how do they fill out the PLE tool? Please email [MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov) to be routed to your Financial Analyst for assistance with your particular circumstance.

If we plan on using our EFB this year, should we do the PLE tool? Yes, PLE is a separate requirement. EFB can never be used in place of collecting meal payments from paid eligible students.

If we have an excess fund balance, can we save some of it for next year like we were able to do in the past? [Yes, if you can provide justification for the need to carry over into the next school year and quantify the amount needed to carry over into the following year. A carryover extension would need to be requested as well.](#)

Can we use excess fund balance to pay off the negative debt? [No, that is not allowable. Bad debt is an unallowable cost per regulations.](#)

Can excess funds from SFSP be used for the CACFP and vice versa? [Yes, all child nutrition programs are required to flow to one non-profit food service account. The funds can be spent for any allowable child nutrition program purposes.](#)

When will the next equipment grant app open? [The 2024 Equipment Assistance Grant will open in spring of 2023. Additional information will be available here: \[Equipment and Excess Fund Balance \\(michigan.gov\\)\]\(#\)<sup>ii</sup>](#)

Does the Supply Chain Assistance Funds count in the Excess Funds Balance? [Yes, it does.](#)

Are we penalized if we didn't spend all the money from last school years spend down plan, because prices got discounted or an item is still out of stock? [No, we will work with you on this.](#)

Where do I Get my certificate for the Excess Fund Balance training? [Certificates for completing the online articulate training are emailed when finishing the quiz at the end of the training.](#)

Is it a 4-month fund balance allowed this year? In regards to Excess Fund Balance Calculation? [There is flexibility this year for sponsors with less than a 4 months average expenditure.](#)

Is there a % of the Excess Fund Balance that can be used for the new furniture that we can base our purchase on. [It depends on if the furniture will be used by other programs. Otherwise, FS can cover the total cost of the furniture.](#)

When will PLE tool be out, and will it be required this year? [We are waiting for word from USDA on the PLE requirements for next school year. We will share the guidance as soon as it is released.](#)

Do we still charge 40 for reduce lunch and 30 for reduced breakfast? [Yes, Reduced-Price Meal prices remain \\$.40 for lunch and \\$.30 for breakfast. You are not allowed to increase those prices. You could choose to eliminate the reduced meal price. Guidance link is here: \[Discretionary Elimination of the Reduced-Price Charges in the School Meal Programs\]\(#\)<sup>iii</sup>](#)

Do CEP districts need a Local Meal Charging Policy? [If any buildings within your district are pricing \(not CEP\) a Local Meal Charge Policy is required. If you are CEP Districtwide you will only need a charge policy if you want to communicate to adults and students that charging of adult meals and/or ala-carte items \(second entrees, ala-carte milk, etc.\) is not allowed.](#)

Are there any new guidelines for coding expenses? [Here is the current coding chart: \[School Nutrition Program Coding SY22-23\]\(#\)<sup>iv</sup>](#)

Is there any mention about eliminating the reduced price for families for 22-23 school year? [That is a local decision. Your district can choose to do so at any time. The move to eliminate the reduced-price category that was in the House version of the bill in Congress was removed in the final moments of](#)



revisions in the Senate in order to pass the Keep Kids Fed Act. Should you wish to explore removing the reduced-price category in your district, reach out to us as at [MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov)

Guidance link is here: [Discretionary Elimination of the Reduced-Price Charges in the School Meal Programs](#)

When will we know the maximum schools can charge for reduced priced breakfasts and lunches? We have schools starting August 1st and cannot release the free and reduced application yet due to not knowing these prices. OR can we eliminate the “Frequently asked questions about free and reduced-price school meals” letter that is part of the normal packet? [Reduced prices can never exceed \\$0.30 for breakfast and \\$0.40 for lunch. Unless you choose to eliminate the reduced meal price or lower the reduced meal price. We can help navigate this if you want to contact us at \[MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov\]\(mailto:MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov\)](#)  
Guidance link is here: [Discretionary Elimination of the Reduced-Price Charges in the School Meal Programs](#)

We all had to raise adult price to \$5.25 during covid. Do you anticipate that it will have to be raised? The higher adult price was related to the higher reimbursement. Adult Pricing Worksheet can be found at [Resource Management \(michigan.gov\)](#)<sup>v</sup> under the Revenue from Non-Program Foods Section. Sponsors should complete both the MDE Ala Carte Pricing Worksheet and the MDE Adult Pricing Worksheet [every summer](#), prior to the first day of the new school year, to ensure ala carte items and adult prices are set to achieve compliance for the Revenue from Non-program Foods pricing requirements ([SP20-2016](#)<sup>vi</sup>) in advance.

Do CEP fill out the FID report? Yes, all Public Schools must complete the FID. FID Closes Nov 1, 2022, and the FID adjustment period closes Nov 18, 2022.

Can food service directors complete the FID report? Yes, depending on how your district has set up access to the FID system. CEPI handles that application. We can provide you with resources if you would like. Please contact us at [MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov) if so.

What would be an ideal price for school lunch and school breakfast, so your program breaks even? Looking at next year and we don't want to give parents sticker shock. [Our financial analysts would be happy to provide one on one analysis to help you with this in order to gather more details on your specific situation. Please email \[MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov\]\(mailto:MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov\). You can eliminate the reduced meal price at any time. Guidance link is here: \[Discretionary Elimination of the Reduced-Price Charges in the School Meal Programs\]\(#\)](#)

Is there a grant code for the 10 cent per meal grants? It is State Funded. No Grant code like we code for Federal Grants.

Do you have more information on how we document the spending of Supply Chain Funding? Can you please elaborate on "normal record keeping rules" for Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) Funds? What records must SFAs retain in connection with their receipt and use of SCA funds?

All SFAs are required to maintain purchasing and other records for review and audit purposes. This documentation must reflect those purchases made by SFAs are consistent with the purpose of the SCA funding, i.e., for domestic unprocessed or minimally processed food products, in amounts that are at least equal to funds received. SFAs must retain regular records pertaining to its school food service as required by 7 CFR 210.9(b)(17). This may include invoices, receipts, and other documents provided when



the SFA executes purchases with these funds. They must evidence that SCA funds were used for allowable purposes. SFAs are not required to proactively provide documentation to State agencies regarding those food purchases.

Is the "Supply Chain Assistance funds" a grant or something else to help with just purchasing better products? [Supply Chain Assistance is a program that is authorized through the Commodity Credit Corporation \(CCC\) and authorized under the CCC Charter Act \[15 U.S.C. 714\].](#)

With the supply chain assistance grant, do we have to be a member of the 10 cents program to make purchases? Or can we make purchases with or main distributor? [No, you do not have to be participating in 10 cents programs to use the funds. The purchases can come from your main distributor.](#)

Did I hear correctly, and these funds cannot be used for SFSP? [Correct. Supply Chain Assistance funds cannot be used in SFSP. Only NSLP and SBP.](#)

Will the adult meal price change after we complete the PLE? [Yes, that is correct. The adult meal prices will be changed to reflect the new paid lunch prices for students. Here is the current \[MDE Adult Pricing Worksheet SY 2022-2023\]\(#\)<sup>vii</sup>](#)

When should the new prices for adult pricing start? [Prior to the start of the new school year.](#)

What about adults that are working in the program - do we have to charge them to eat meals? [Adults that are directly involved in the meal service are allowed to be provided a meal free of charge. Reach out to \[MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov\]\(mailto:MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov\) for more details.](#)

Is the 40-cent increase going to change the PLE or adult pricing? [Yes, it will impact the minimum adult meal price requirement for SY22-23. Here is the current \[MDE Adult Pricing Worksheet SY 2022-2023\]\(#\)](#)

Adults Ala Carte? [Ala carte prices for adults should be priced higher to account for sales tax that has to be paid on all adult sales.](#)

Regarding the milk requirements and Ala Carte, can we circumvent that issue by just NOT selling it Ala Carte? Or is there some non-allowance with that? [You are not required to sell a la carte.](#)

Monthly claims and annual school meal applications must be completed and submitted by whom? [School Nutrition Program applications are completed by the Level 5 or Level 4 MEGS+ user. Monthly claims are completed by the team member that is assigned to do so.](#)

## Procurement & Contracts

Do we have to wait for the addendum to the Food Vendor contract to be approved before beginning multiple meals? [Please send a draft addendum to MDE for review and approval before beginning multiple meals.](#)

Is there a template for vended meals contract that I can get? [Please email \[MDE-FSMC-Vended@michigan.gov\]\(mailto:MDE-FSMC-Vended@michigan.gov\) for prototype documents. There is a specific procurement process for food service contracts that must be followed.](#)

If we are a management company district, do we need to do the "vended meal" agreement if it is already in our contract and our renewed contract? [Please contact our general mailbox at](#)

[MDE-FSMC-Vended@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-FSMC-Vended@michigan.gov) so we can ask you any questions to make sure you are not required to submit an addendum to your current contract.

Can MDE send out a communication addressing the Supply Chain issues that we could share with our families? Also, any tutorial on what constitutes a "meal" would help. As we all saw this week one school district got blasted even though they followed the meal patterns. Something coming from MDE might help support our challenges. [These are helpful graphics from USDA for School Lunch<sup>viii</sup> and School Breakfast<sup>ix</sup> to show required components.](#) The [Michigan School Meals<sup>x</sup>](#) is also trying to address this. Another resource that people may find helpful (includes sample parent communication): LunchAssist blog post featuring 11 tips for staffing shortages & supply chain disruptions: <https://www.lunchassist.org/blog/11-tips-for-staffing-shortages-supply-chain-disruptions>

Do we have a system in place for school that utilize a vendor company and want to operate in the 10 Cent Grant? MDE is not a party to the contract. Therefore, it would be your responsibility to work with your vendor to get the local products to be a part of their meals and to be identified in the meal invoices you get from the vendor. Your other option is to serve snacks/after school meals that are outside your vended contract that includes the local product.

We contract and order our CACFP meals through our public schools. All individually meals are pre-packaged and portioned out the same. How can we be billed as adult meals when there is no difference in the portions served? [Please reach out to us to discuss the details of your circumstances so that we can best direct you.](#) Email: [MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov)

Since we can't get very many commodities, is that going to affect the amount we get next year if we don't reach 95%? [Guidance has not been re-written. We do take into consideration if there are cancelations or other circumstances.](#)

If we receive meals from a vendor and have a set contract price, will we still be eligible for SCA funds? [The money must be spent on unprocessed or minimally processed foods. Since you don't purchase food \(just complete meals\), I am going to have to get clarification from USDA. We will keep you posted.](#)

## CACFP

Do the free Breakfast and Lunch include CACFP Accounts? [Generally speaking, the CACFP can use the School Nutrition Program Eligibility Form.](#)

Will a separate administrative review list be released for CACFP programs? Yes, it will be, currently we are conducting new program and sponsors that are needing assistance. Your analyst will contact you if you are being scheduled a review after October 1, 2023. Can we do CACFP ARAS distribution? [ARAS is only available during the school year. Please contact your analyst or email \[MDE-CACFP@michigan.gov\]\(mailto:MDE-CACFP@michigan.gov\) so we can get specifics for your program.](#)

Is GSRP under CACFP? GSRP could also be claimed under NSLP/SBP. [Snack must be claimed under CACFP. Breakfast and Lunch may be claimed in NSLP or CACFP, but the \*\*sponsor must serve the pre-school\*\* meal pattern.](#) Contact your program analyst to understand the best choice for your organization.

If I am a CEP district for Breakfast and Lunch through NSLP and also offer Snack through CACFP to Head Start and GSRP, do I have those families fill out a Family Survey or a Free or Reduced application? [Please use the Free/Reduced income eligibility form if possible. Many times, the survey does not quite cover all](#)

the information needed by CACFP. We have a CACFP form, contact your analyst for the HIES or see our website.

CEP automatically qualifies us for free CACFP free right? **Not necessarily, CACFP GSRP is based on income eligibility. Additionally, not all early childhood programs are eligible to be included in NSLP/CEP. PLEASE check with your analyst.**

Can non-profit CACFP sites apply for the Equipment Assistance Grant? **Yes, the sponsor must participate in NSLP.**

Is the Thinking Thursdays registration open? **Yes, registration is open. CACFP Thinking Thursdays Webinar Link: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_TystqURyTNqTxBZWw3MzeA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TystqURyTNqTxBZWw3MzeA)**

GSRP - Unflavored milk only or can students be offered ff chocolate. **Unflavored milk only for children under the age of 6. Preschool aged children can have only unflavored skim or 1% milk for ages 3-5.**

## Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

If we are doing Summer School but only to our students not the public ,do I claim this under SFSP or how do I claim meals? **You would be required to serve through extended NSLP if you do not want to open your site to the public.**

What are the SFSP reimbursement rates?

<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/summer/memos/mde-operational-memos>

How do we know if we qualify as Rural for grab and go summer meet up and eat up? **The county designation for rural counties can be found at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/rural-designation>**

Can a location be congregate and non-congregate through SFSP? **Non-congregate meals are only for counties that are designated as rural. Please email the SFSP Team at [mde-sfsp@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-sfsp@michigan.gov) with your specific situation.**

How many CEUs is the Summer Feeding training? **CEUs are not awarded for the SFSP training.**

Is USC SFSP still a thing? I've been finding conflicting answers. We were closed 3 days last week because of icy weather and power outages. Could I have served meals for pickup? **Can you please reach out to us at [MDE-SFSP@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SFSP@michigan.gov) and we can get your questions answered on your specific situation.**

How are we feeding SFSP? Are we doing 7 days? **We just received guidance from USDA and will be communicating soon to the sponsors.**

I was told there was going to be a webinar for the FSD that couldn't make it to one of the in person one. Is this still going to be a possibility? **If you are unable to attend a training, please contact the SFSP team at [mde-sfsp@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-sfsp@michigan.gov) as soon as possible to discuss alternative training options.**

We can serve weekend meals this summer? **Weekends can be served in the Summer Food Service Program.**

Can I now provide meals for a day care center under the SFSP now? **Please reach out to us at [MDE-SFSP@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SFSP@michigan.gov) with your specific situation. Licensed daycares are served through CACFP.**

Do we have to serve breakfast? [We need more information with program you are serving in. Please email us your specific situation at MDE-SFSP@michigan.gov.](#)

If I have not served milk with my meals, yet all meals contained the proper components besides milk will I be able to claim my meals until I am able to get milk in my unit? [Please contact your analyst to discuss your milk issue.](#)

SFSP rates will remain based on geographical designation? Not the higher/rural rate for all? [Correct](#)

So how do we handle out of stock items for the SFSP? [If you have concerns about your ability to serve all components for all meal services, please contact your assigned analyst for further discussion and follow up documentation needs.](#)

How do we know how many kids to plan for if we haven't done this before and can't just include our families? [When planning for your SFSP, meal orders can be adjusted to meet the needs of the site. It is a best practice to estimate and adjust your meal orders accordingly.](#)

Who should be reach out to for Summer School Programs and "Meet UP and Eat UP" questions? [MDE-SFSP@michigan.gov](#)

I have a site eligible building/over 50% that is going to be under construction this summer. Will that building eligibility be moved to the temporary site? [For assistance with site eligibility, contact the SFSP team at mde-sfsp@michigan.gov.](#)

Does this application have to be submitted if we do not intend to serve in the summer? [If you do not plan to participate in the Summer Food Service Program this summer, you do not need to start or submit a 2022 SFSP application.](#)

I have been participating in SFSP for 8 years now. However, I wasn't the sponsor. The individual who was my sponsor has transferred. Thus, do I need to complete the "Sponsor Training?" [You may contact the SFSP for eligible sponsors in your area at mde-sfsp@michigan.gov. You will receive training from the sponsor that you are enrolled with.](#)

Can the SFSP training webinars and Michigan 100 Planning and administering SFSP trainings be used as part of the 12 hours of annual training required for professional standards? [Yes, these trainings count as part of the 12 hours annual training.](#)

Who specifically from the "community" would we feed over the summer? [The SFSP serves children 18 years of age and younger and those with disabilities up to age 26.](#)

If our school participates in CACFP and are area eligible w/o a wavier, can we still do SFSP this summer? [Yes, if you have sites \(school or non-school\) that are eligible with school data or census map data, you can participate in the SFSP this summer.](#)

If we decide to enroll in NSLP for the summer school, can we only offer breakfast? [Yes, if the summer school program only is in the morning and not during lunch this is possible. It would be better to feed both breakfast and lunch and then send the kids home though.](#)

Can I continue to serve lunch for the first part of summer school and receive the reimbursements if my school does qualify for SFSP? If you are only planning to serve the summer school students, you will serve in NSLP. If you are planning to feed all eligible children in the community, you will enroll in SFSP.

If SFSP is open to the community; how do you determine how much food to prepare? Please feel free to reach out to us at [MDE-SFSP@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SFSP@michigan.gov) and we would gladly have further conversation with you.

Where would you find the SFSP map? You can check your availability on the SFSP website at [www.michigan.gov/sfsp](http://www.michigan.gov/sfsp) under the resources tab.

## Supply Chain Assistance- Round 2 & 3

Can you apply for supply chain disruption funds even if you have an excess balance? Yes

Do we have to spend all of the supply chain money this school year? No, you do not. USDA has not given sponsors a deadline to spend Supply Chain Assistance funds.

If we accepted round 1 of the Supply Chain Asst Grant, did we automatically get in on round 2 or was there something separate we should have done to get round 2? The round 2 acceptance forms will be available in GEMS/MARS. You will need to accept the funds, similar to the first round.

Do we have to process invoices for the supply chain assistance fund? How do we claim or show proof? The use of Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) funds will be reviewed and monitored in the same manner as other funds in the Food Service Fund. And because these SCA funds are not matching and are coded the same as NSLP reimbursements (there is no separate tracking requirement), you are able to spend them into the following school year if you choose. They would just be considered part of your running fund balance to use for allowable SCA designated operational costs going forward. However, keep in mind that the SCA funds, if unused prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>, may trigger an excess fund balance.

Can you use invoices for items already purchased (milk, produce) with Round 2 of SCA funds? Supply Chain Assistance Funds cannot be used for items purchased prior to receiving the funds.

Can we count more than milk it's not enough for just milk. Can't we do fresh produce please supply chain money? Yes- it is any unprocessed or minimally processed food items also. More specifics are on this handout: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/ohns/School-Nutrition-Programs/Supply-Chain-Assistance-Funds/Spending-SCA-Funds-Round-2ADA.pdf?rev=157eb28b49484abb973c244b11549a62&hash=8B94EE6EF940F3AAB898DABE60736FA0>

Can you define what foods fall under "minimally processed" for the Supply Chain Funds? This is a helpful handout: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/ohns/School-Nutrition-Programs/Supply-Chain-Assistance-Funds/Spending-SCA-Funds-Round-2ADA.pdf?rev=157eb28b49484abb973c244b11549a62&hash=8B94EE6EF940F3AAB898DABE60736FA0>

## Extended National School Lunch Program for Summer School

Can we run SFSP as well as the Extended NSLP for our summer school since those sites do not meet the SFSP eligibility? SFSP and Extended NSLP cannot be run at the same time at a site.

If using Extended NSLP for summer school, does the free rate for 100% CEP still apply? If you have an approved CEP application with a 100% CEP eligibility for that building - it will apply for Extended NSLP/Summer School. But both breakfast and lunch will need to be served.

In the Extended NSLP, are we charging students for meals like we do during a traditional year? Yes, if students do not qualify for free meals, they would be responsible for the paid price or reduced price (if eligible) of the meal.

If we offer Extended Year NSLP, will 21-22 FR Apps be acceptable past July 1 (per carry-over rules)? Yes, the concern is that you don't have 21-22 FR Apps.

Could the Extended NSLP be a physical education program to be able to feed the students? The summer school program must include core curriculum in the program. So physical education alone would not work.

Where do we complete an application for the NSLP Extended Summer School program? Extended School Year is part of the traditional NSLP program which is in the School Nutrition Program Application. The current School Nutrition Program application is valid through June 30, 2022. The 2023 School Nutrition Program application will be available in May and is valid July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023.

Do CEP schools need the applications for Free, Reduced-Price & Paid for the Extended NSLP? Yes, you are correct. CEP schools do not need F/R price applications. However, you do need to collect Household Information Reports starting after July 1, 2022.

## P-EBT

Do we have to fill out anything for the summer PEBT for the schools? No, you do not need to fill out anything for free/reduced-price meals.

Any Summer P-EBT update? Summer P-EBT for 2023 will happen. Michigan is not officially approved, but the MDHHS plans to apply.

Will the SY 2022-2023 P-EBT eligibility be the same as last year? When will student eligibility be pulled for the P-EBT? Yes, it will be the same as last year. The first pull will happen in February 2023.

Where can my parents call if they have not received the last PEBT. We are PEBT so they should have all received them and they have not. Please email [MDHHS-PEBT@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-PEBT@michigan.gov) Or call the P-EBT helpdesk at (833) 905-0028.

Will there be a Summer P-EBT this summer? P-EBT is attached to the national public health emergency. It will end when the health emergency ends.

## Child Nutrition Programs Miscellaneous Questions

If a student does not appear on the Direct Certification report, are they coded in SIS as full pay, even if the Household/Educational form indicates income in falling in the free/reduced levels? If you are CEP and a student is not directly certified, but the family completed the HIR and was determined free or reduced, then you would want to report those students as free or reduced in MSDS.

How do you access the Tuesday at 2 sessions? The website will be updated here: <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/sntp/lunch/topics/talk-2>. The links will also be sent via CNP News.

Is the .10 Cents a Meal in Nexys or GEMS/MARS? The application is in NexSys, but you submit your documents in GEMS/MARS.

Is information being sent to Superintendents regarding Local Wellness Policy? I am having trouble being heard in my district. We are getting a notice in the Thursday MDE weekly communication. They have a 2-week lead time, but it will be in a March issue.

Where can we go to check on which waiver, we may have for the Triennial Assessment so we may plan accordingly? Local Wellness Policy website has a list of sponsors with the waivers and deadlines listed: [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254\\_50144-194546--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254_50144-194546--,00.html)

The 80% WG target is for breakfast and lunch separately, correct? Correct

Will the new And Justice for All poster have a new graphic making it easy to tell the difference between the current and new poster? We have not been given any information on the poster and what the graphic will be. Once we have the posters in our possession, we will let you know how to receive the updated version.

Who must have posters? We receive our food from a local district and our (few) students eat in the classroom. And Justice for All posters should be posted in any area where children are eating.

Can you tell us what programs we should be able to see on our main page in NexSys? I think you should see applications that are available to your districts and that you have been assigned access to. If you are typically a level 4 user, a level 5 will need to initiate and add you to an application before you will have access to it.

Can you expand on the LWP Triennial Assessment waiver? Would this waiver only apply if there is a scheduled meeting during a COVID closure? This waiver gives us another year or only 7 days? Can you give examples on when this waiver would be approved? The LWP Triennial Assessment waiver is different (and will have a separate form that we should be able to send out very soon). It will delay the assessment until June 30, 2023--it gives you 1 more year to complete the assessment. Any NSLP sponsor can apply for the Triennial Assessment waiver when it is released.

For the triennial wellness assessment waiver, does justification to use have to be COVID-related? Justification will not be required. A school just needs to notify MDE by filling out the form that they are accepting the new deadline. USDA acknowledges that some schools may not have been able to complete the assessment due to the ongoing pandemic response.

## 12L Waivers

Should we request the Waivers now for just in case or when we need them? It would be best to complete the GEMS/MARS form when you need it.



Can we request non-congregate for CACFP as a means of protection against COVID-19? Or does their have to be an active "issue" occurring. It must be an active issue. It cannot be standard meal service "just in case".

## MILogin & MiND 2.0

I have created a MILogin account but do not have access to enter claims. My business administrator does not see away to add me. Would there be a guide to help with adding me? Please follow these instructions and if you still don't get access, please contact your SNP Analyst.

1. [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/External\\_Linking\\_MILogin\\_and\\_MEIS\\_716177\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/External_Linking_MILogin_and_MEIS_716177_7.pdf)
2. [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/External\\_Users\\_-\\_Requesting\\_Access\\_to\\_MIND\\_2.0\\_System\\_733676\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/External_Users_-_Requesting_Access_to_MIND_2.0_System_733676_7.pdf)

I have a MILogin account and used the link, but I can only enter claims. I cannot certify the claim - this is for SFSP final claims. Is this related to the new process? If you are a level 2, that will only allow you to enter the information into the claim. The level 3 will need to certify and submit.

Megs plus only allows for two level 5 users in the district and those are usually the business manager and the title person. Most directors are a level 4, can you clarify why this is? The two level 5 users restriction is a MDE Grants office restriction. We do not have the ability to change it.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/ohns/School-Nutrition-Programs/Administrative-Reviews/SY-2022-2023-AR-list-for-website.pdf?rev=00198b9783084ce38a4340d81c05a773&hash=097DF90D17E6292B5AC6277F7B151AB9>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/fiscal-admin/topics/equipment-and-excess-fund-balance>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/discretionary-elimination-reduced-price-charges-school-meal-programs>

<sup>iv</sup> <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/ohns/Fiscal/Food-Service-Fund-Grant-Coding-SY-22-23.xlsx?rev=0c87d7c9bda74938b26c9faa6572e229&hash=2DFE1842A5ECC9C085558984E575EFB2>

<sup>v</sup> <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/fiscal-admin/topics/resource-management>

<sup>vi</sup> <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/nonprofit-school-food-service-account-nonprogram-food-revenue-requirements>

<sup>vii</sup> <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/ohns/Fiscal/MDE-Adult-Pricing-Worksheet-SY-2022-2023.xlsx?rev=784f9987cf88459c8e79faf16234de96&hash=068CD5F2601ED8849EBF49641AC770E4>

<sup>viii</sup> <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/myplate-guide-school-lunch>

<sup>ix</sup> <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/myplate-guide-school-breakfast>

<sup>x</sup> <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/food/michigan-school-meals>