



School Nutrition Programs (SNP) News and Updates

April 28, 2020

Town Hall Meetings

Office of Health and Nutrition Services is inviting you to scheduled Zoom Town Hall Meetings. See below for meeting information.

Topic: Town Hall 4-29-20

Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Time: 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/94849650401?pwd=TE9oSDNENFhwbENhbmJ0a1JkZUxlUT09>

Password: 6Ywa6h

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

Topic: Town Hall 5-6-20

Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2020

Time: 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/93115986411?pwd=QnFVNnAyVXZGd3MrSEtNVTRTZzdiQT09>

Password: 8zvBGH

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

Topic: Town Hall 5-13-20

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Time: 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/96046622057?pwd=TDVjM1hXUW1DM2hmQVINWFEzRFJhUT09>

Password: 1f5Ee8

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

Topic: Town Hall 5-20-20

Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Time: 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/95358978772?pwd=bXZEa2x6ZIB3aU1NemJyVUR3dzZTUT09>

Password: 0zNMWR

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

Topic: Town Hall 5-27-20

Date: Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Time: 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/91785563913?pwd=UGxpRDQ0dGNCcG5XbkJtT1Z6cXdlQT09>

Password: 6UyZpY

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

Pandemic-EBT

Pandemic-EBT Webpages

There have been two webpages set up within our website to provide information on Pandemic-EBT. The page [P-EBT Food Assistance Benefits for Families¹](#) is set up to help the general public find information on P-EBT. The second webpage [P-EBT Food Assistance Benefits for School Children²](#) is set up to help school administrators find answers to their questions.

Pandemic-EBT Frequently Asked Questions

There have been two sets of Frequently Asked Questions developed to provide information on Pandemic-EBT. The page [P-EBT Card Frequently Asked Questions³](#) is set up to help the general public find information on P-EBT. The second document [P-EBT Frequently Asked Questions for Schools⁴](#) is set up to help school administrators find answers to their questions.

Office of Health and Nutrition Services Webinars

If you have missed or are looking for any of our Pandemic-EBT, Unanticipated School Closure SFSP, or Town Hall webinars they are all available at the [Unanticipated School Closures SFSP Past Webinars⁵](#) webpage.

Pandemic-EBT Informational Flyer

If you would like an informational sheet that you can distribute to your families, we have collaborated in the development of the [Pandemic EBT Program⁶](#) flyer. There is also a flyer translated into Spanish and Arabic, if you would like either of those versions please send your request to mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov.

Direct Certification, Free and Reduced-Price Meals Applications for School Year 2019-2020, and Student Record Maintenance

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) would like to remind sponsors to continue to pull the Direct Certification Reports and extend eligibility to ensure students/households receive any benefits they are eligible for due to the current situation.

Sponsors should also continue to collect and process Free and Reduced-Price Meal Applications for eligible households in April and May 2020. We have developed a [Template](#)

[Letter for Free and Reduced-Price Applications](#)⁷ that can be used to promote Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application submission among your families.

The following three items are why continuing to certify students for Free and Reduced-Price Meals should continue:

- Increase site eligibility for the Traditional Summer Food Service Program, we can use the Free and Reduced-Price student counts compared to building enrollment to determine which buildings are above the 50% Free and Reduced-Price minimum for eligibility;
- New benefits can be carried over for 30-operating days in the next School Year 2020-2021, as we do not know exactly what the next school year will look like, a 30-operating day carry over could benefit many households; and
- Newly eligible students will be eligible for P-EBT benefits for the remainder of School Year 2019-2020.

For public school students, updated student eligibility will need to be submitted through the Student Record Maintenance (SRM) in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS). The deadlines for those SRM uploads are April 28, May 12, and May 26. Please reach out to your pupil accounting and/or student data personal to confirm they to report eligibility updates by those deadlines.

For non-public school sponsors we are working with our partners at the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) to develop a way to collect data for students in non-public schools. We will provide more guidance on that collection as it is available.

Updating Student Addresses

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is not able to update student addresses; they must be updated at the local level. Families who call requesting an address change are being directed to reach out to their school. Updated addresses should be reported in the Student Record Maintenance in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS).

Please be sure that all addresses reported into the MSDS use the line 2 address field for secondary address information only, not a full second address. Only the primary student address should be reported into the MSDS. This address is where the P-EBT card will be mailed to. If your district has a second address reported in line 2, please update those fields accordingly so there is not a delay in cards being mailed out.

Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Waiver

The Michigan Department of Education is pleased to announce a nationwide waiver for the Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment. The intent of this waiver is to support Local Education Agencies (LEA) unable to complete a triennial assessment

of the local school wellness policies by June 30, 2020, due to school closures as a result of COVID-19.

At a minimum, assessments must be conducted once every three years as described in 7 CFR 210.31(e); this is referred to as the triennial assessment. Resources regarding Local Wellness Policy and the triennial assessment, including the MDE Triennial Assessment template, can be found at [LWP Resources](#).⁸

The first Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment is due June 30, 2020. LEAs have two options for adhering to this deadline. First, LEAs that are prepared to complete their assessment by June 30, 2020, are encouraged to do so. Second, LEAs may choose to accept the new deadline and instead complete their first triennial assessment by June 30, 2021.

LEAs wishing to accept this new deadline of June 30, 2021, must notify the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Health and Nutrition Services, by June 15, 2020. Please complete the [Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Waiver](#)⁹ survey to accept this waiver. Completion of this survey indicates approval of the assessment deadline extension to June 30, 2021.

This waiver along with other Unanticipated School Closure waivers for Michigan can be found at [Michigan USC Waivers](#).¹⁰

Please contact the School Nutrition Programs unit at 517-241-5374 or MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov or your program analyst with any questions regarding the triennial assessment.

Team Nutrition E-STAR Training Grant

Interested in 53 hours of free training? Enter for a chance to win it through the Team Nutrition E-STAR Training Grant! E-STAR (Enhanced School Nutrition Strategies, Training, Action Plans, and Resources) is a training program developed by the Institute of Child Nutrition with a focus on **meal quality**. Training for up to **80 managers (1 per district, must participate in the National School Lunch Program)** will include pre-workshop online courses, an in-person 2.5 day workshop, and follow-up training and mentoring. Managers will create action plans, receive grant funding, and provide in-person training to their frontline staff (**minimum of 1 per building**). Please see the E-STAR attachment below for more detailed information. To apply visit [E-STAR Training Grant](#)¹¹ by the **May 4, 2020**, deadline. If you have any questions, contact Whitney Vance at VanceW@Michigan.gov or 517-241-9111.

[Detailed Description of E-STAR Training Components](#)

Training Corner

Michigan Nutrition Training Calendar

During this time of necessary social distancing, it is very important for the field to have access to all the virtual trainings available to them, to help them continue to do their jobs. If you are offering an online/virtual training, please fill out and submit this questionnaire: [I want my training added to the MI Nutrition Training Calendar](#).¹² Be sure to fill out ALL of the information including NA if the question does not apply. Trainings cannot be added to the calendar without the complete information.

Please visit the [Michigan Nutrition Training Calendar](#),¹³ a one-stop-shop calendar that lists child nutrition trainings across the state. The more trainings listed, the better the calendar will be for our Child Nutrition Programs!

If you have questions, contact MDE-MINutritionTraining@michigan.gov.

[How to Access the MI Nutrition Training Calendar](#)¹⁴

School Nutrition Programs Training – an Update

During this time of necessary social distancing, MDE has canceled scheduled in-person trainings for the time being. Instead, MDE will begin offering virtual training on various topics. Please check back periodically at the [MDE Training Website page](#)¹⁵ to see what is planned.

Contact Us

Email: MDE-SchoolNutrition@Michigan.gov

Nutrition Gateway: The Michigan Department of Education [Nutrition Gateway](#)¹⁶ provides Child Nutrition Program (CNP) agencies a singular system to access annual CNP applications (MEGSplus), monthly claims (MIND) and periodic administrative reviews (GEMS/MARS) through an integrated dashboard and portal.

If you or someone you know is interested in receiving the School Nutrition News and Updates and SNP Bulletins, visit [School Nutrition News and Updates Subscription](#).¹⁷

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability,

age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#),¹⁸ (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter 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;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Hyperlinks for Ease of Access

1. https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254_99536-526602--,00.html
2. https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254_99536-526599--,00.html
3. https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/COVID-19_P-EBT_FAQs_688075_7.pdf
4. https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/P-EBT_FAQ_for_Schools_Website_688380_7.pdf
5. https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254_34491_96106-523141--,00.html
6. https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Pandemic_EBT-_Michigan_688073_7.pdf
7. https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Template_letter_for_new_FR_applications_688428_7.docx
8. https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254_50144-194546--,00.html
9. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NBSBR76>
10. https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254_34491-523051--,00.html
11. <https://chc.mphi.org/surveys/?s=97777R4ATJ>
12. <https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gems/public/QuestionnaireHome.aspx?code=i4a9scdr>
13. <https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gateway/Authentication/TrainingCalendar>
14. https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Michigan_Nutrition_Training_Calendar_Access_678629_7.pdf
15. https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-66254_50144_94240_94245-508154-

[-.00.html](#)

16. <https://mdoe.state.mi.us/gateway/Authentication/Login>

17. https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIMDE/subscriber/new?topic_id=MIMDE_229

18. https://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf