

OHNS Town Hall

We will begin at 2:00 p.m.

February 10, 2021

Happy to
have you
with us!

- PowerPoints are posted at:
 - [Office of Health and Nutrition Services Town Hall Meetings](#) webpage
- Q & A will be updated weekly and posted at:
 - [MDE COVID-19 Health and Nutrition Services Resources](#) webpage
- Next: March 10 and April 14

Professional Development Certificates

- Town Hall Meetings count as Professional Development.
- 2020 Town Hall Certificate is available (check off the ones you attended)
 - [Town Hall Certificate \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov)
- Certificates for each Town Hall moving forward, including today.
 - [Town Hall Training Certificate 2-10 \(michigan.gov\)](https://michigan.gov)

School Food Authority – Verification Collection Report (SFA-VCR)

- MDE requested a waiver for verification reporting
 - USDA responded and the waiver was not approved
- For SY20-21, the verification deadline was extended to February 28, 2021
 - The February 28th deadline is for verification activities and does not include reporting results to MDE
- The SFA-VCR will open soon, information to come
- Questions regarding the SFA-VCR may be directed to Natalee Mickelson at mickelsonn@michigan.gov.

Child Nutrition Emergency Operating Costs Reimbursement Program

- Purpose: To provide additional funding to sponsors whose revenues were impacted due to the pandemic
- Who is Eligible: Sponsors in the School Nutrition Programs and/or Child and Adult Care Food Program
 - If a sponsor had a lower reimbursement during the Spring of 2020 compared to the Spring of 2019, they will be eligible for this additional reimbursement
 - If a sponsor is eligible, they will be notified in the coming months

More information will be provided when our plan is approved by USDA

31k Grant Student Meal Negative Balance Forgiveness

Second Application will open March 1st, 2021

Deadline April 30th

Apply thru link @ www.michigan.gov/mde-fast

- \$709,076 left to reimburse districts for forgiving current student meal negative balances
- For School Year 2020/2021 only
- Funds can be prorated if funding is not enough to cover
- To be eligible for reimbursement payments districts must:
 - Adopt meal charge policies that prevent lunch shaming per the legislation
 - Write off outstanding student negative balances with a transfer from the General Fund
 - Previously written off negative balances are not eligible
 - Bad debt is not eligible for this grant

New Equipment Request Process

- Improve the equipment approval process overall
- New **MDE Food Service Administrative Memo #5 SY2020-2021 When Do You Need Pre-Approval for Food Service Equipment Purchases?** policy and guidance requirements are easy to understand and follow
- Reduces the number of equipment requests that sponsors must submit
- Takes effect immediately
- All the information will be sent out through the SNP News on this week

Benefits of the New Equipment Request Process

- The Pre-Approved Food Service Equipment List includes most ordinary food service equipment. Requests will now be only for unique items or large projects.
- Eliminated the \$25,000 Rule – We eliminated the rule that required sponsors to get approval when equipment purchases exceed \$25,000 cumulative per building per year.
- Automated Process-The [Equipment and Capital Outlay Request Form](#) is now entered online directly in GEMS/MARS. No more filling out the form and emailing it.
- The step-by-step online process will guide sponsors through the online form.
- When an approval is not required, the system will let users know.

New Equipment Request Process For More Information

- Review the MDE Food Service Administrative Memo #5 SY2020-2021 *When Do You Need Pre-Approval for Food Service Equipment Purchases?*
- Review the Pre-Approved Food Service Equipment List
- Visit our FAST website: www.Michigan.gov/mde-fast
- Use the [Equipment and Capital Outlay Request Form](#) link on our website
- Contact: MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov



2020 Excess Fund Balances

- Sponsors with an Excess Fund Balance (EFB) from SY2019/2020 will receive notification
 - Issued via GEMS/MARS February 2021
- Most common ways to invest in FS program improvements:
 - improving food quality
 - purchasing needed supplies, services, or equipment
 - additional staffing
- EFB Spend Down Plan of Action Form is due June 15, 2021
- The Excess Fund Balance must be spent down by June 30, 2021
- With the improved equipment process, many proposed items on a Plan of Action will not require additional MDE prior approval of an Equipment Request.

EFB Spend Down Plan of Action

What is a Spend Down Plan of Action Form?

It is a form where Sponsor's list the ways they plan to reinvest the excess funds back into the FS program:

- Proposed items/projects along with the estimated cost; or
- Actual list items/projects with total costs of allowable items that have already been purchased this school year

At the bottom of the page, you can save your progress and return later or submit when finished.

Response

This form must be completed, saved, and submitted on the Submit Documents Page within two (2) weeks of MDE's notification letter.

District name

District Agreement Number:

Districts with excess funds remaining at the end of the school year should use the funds for allowable expenses, such as improving feeding sites or food preparation facilities, improving the food quality or expenses related to Child Nutrition Programs operated by the agency.

How many items are you purchasing?

Excess Funds Itemized list

In the line(s) provided below, identify the areas in which excess funds will be spent for Child Nutrition Programs during the school year 2019-2020.

Item(s) to be purchased	Estimated Cost
Walk In Freezer	25000
Steam table	4700
hot holding cabinet	3500

Excess Funds Balance:

Carryover balance from prior school year:

Total cost of item(s):

Upload additional supporting documentation (if applicable)

[Download Files](#)

Drop files here or click to upload

File Name	File Size	
Excess Fund balance response letter - Signed .pdf	0.1 MB	Remove

By typing my name in the box below, I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this information is true and correct in all respects and that records are

Excess Fund Balance Reporting and Process TimeLine

June – November 2020

SFA determines if an EFB exists

February 2021

MDE sends notifications to SFAs requiring a Plan of Action

February – June 2021

Submit and seek MDE Plan of Action approval

June 15, 2021

EFB Plan of Action final due date

June 30, 2021

Plan of Action completed and funds spent down or
request a carryover extension

Excess Fund Balance Resources

Contact our Fiscal Monitoring Team with
Excess Fund Balance Questions: MDE-
Fiscal@michigan.gov

- Resources available at:
www.michigan.gov/mde-fast

PEBT 2.0 School Year 20-21

The MDHHS School Year 20-21 plan has been approved

- PEBT is intended for children who have missed child nutrition meals during the pandemic
- Documentation of eligibility for free or reduced-price meals or enrollment in a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school
- Eligible students are enrolled in school/program where the mode of learning virtual or hybrid

PEBT 2.0 Logistics

- Transfer of the student level Free and Reduced-Price Meal Eligibility data completed at the state level using records from the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) will be done in 3 phases:
 1. K-12 students
 2. Early Childhood Program children
 3. Non-public school students
- P-EBT Cards will be created by student, unless active SNAP benefits exist
- Benefits will happen 3 times throughout the year- Spring, Early Summer and Late Summer based on completed mode of learning survey

PEBT 2.0 Non-Public Schools reporting in MSDS

- The most up to date student data may be reported by a public school for the non-public school student that is receiving shared time services; or
- The non-public school does an Early Roster Collection in MSDS and then a *Non-Public School Nutrition Student Eligibility Collection* in MSDS.
- The *Non-Public School Nutrition Student Eligibility Collection* will open in MSDS sometime before March 10th. MDE will provide training on the collection process once it is available.

PEBT 2.0 Updates From MDHHS

- District Survey to capture building level learning modality data by month "P-EBT Eligibility Reporting"
- MDHHS is asking that your district supply 3 contacts to complete the survey
- Everyone should do this survey as not reporting could disallow benefits for a student
- The decision was made to include alternate agreement sites in the MDHHS P-EBT Eligibility Reporting Survey of their sponsoring district/school. So, if you have alternate agreement sites please notify your partners of this email. If you are an alternate agreement site under a sponsor, we recommend you reach out to them for further instruction.

PEBT 2.0 Where do I ask for help?

- Questions regarding the Free and Reduced-Price Meal Eligibility and Alternate Agreements may be directed to mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov.
- Questions regarding the MDHHS P-EBT Eligibility Reporting may be directed to MDHHS-PEBT@michigan.gov.
- Questions regarding Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) may be directed to cepi@michigan.gov

Direct Certification

- Pull direct certification reports biweekly as they are available
- Extend eligible to other household members

MSDS DIRECT CERTIFICATION REFRESH

2/11/2021

3/1/2021

3/19/2021

4/12/2021

4/22/2021

5/13/2021

5/27/2021

SFSP MEGS+ Application

Reminder:

- If you served meals in January, your calendar needs to have days checked in the January calendar for you to claim
 - Log in to MEGS+ and check to ensure you have January – April calendars filled out!!

Do not inactivate sites that you served at previously or are not continuing meal service at!

SFSP MEGS+ site types

- If a site is open, this site shows up on the Meet Up and Eat Up map (www.Michigan.gov/meetupeatup)
- If a site is open-restricted, this site does not show up on the Meet Up and Eat Up map

SFSP after April...

- Sponsors will have to complete a 2021 SFSP MEGS+ application for May and June
 - If eligible to continue the traditional SFSP, July and August will also be available at that time
- Our team will hold a few refresher webinars on how to complete the MEGS+ application in March/early April
 - Dates not yet determined
- Current USDA SFSP waivers expire on June 30

Potable Water

SFSP

There is no potable water requirement in the Summer Food Service Program

NSLP/SBP

If providing meals through National School Lunch Program you **MUST** make water available to children where reimbursable meals are served during the meal period

CACFP

A childcare institution or facility must offer and make potable drinking water available to children throughout the day and upon request

Encourage students to bring water bottles from home

10 Cents a Meal Grant Application is re- opened

If you did not apply early in the year and would like to please use the newly released link.

The application has FOUR sections that you need to complete – Contact Information, Budget Detail, Assurances and Program Information.

The Program Information section includes current local, minimally processed produce purchasing and how it's used in your program(s), current farm-to-school partnerships, marketing plans for local purchasing initiatives, and project goals including educational efforts.

For information about 10 Cents or the application please contact Jaime Malnar at MalnarJ1@michigan.gov or Liana Bennett at BennettL4@michigan.gov

10 Cents a Meal Grant

Current Grantees

MDE will pay the awarded grant monies:

1. Submission of required survey
 - Link was sent in email on February 3
 - Due February 17
2. Submission of meal counts for meals served with a 10-cent eligible fruit or vegetable
 - For the first part of the year, meal counts will be collected in the survey.
3. Submission of invoice spreadsheet in FarmLogix
 - Only spreadsheets
 - Invoices to be kept on file

New Special Diet Accommodations Guide



Understanding Special Diet Accommodations for Child Nutrition Programs

Helping schools, sponsors* and providers understand accommodations for participants who request a special diet.

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[MDE Special Dietary Needs Page](#)



Elevating School Meals - Checklist

Serving school meals during a pandemic creates its own challenges for participation. How can more students be reached to increase meal participation? Use this checklist to see what great practices you already have in place. Consider trying some of these options, keeping in mind they may not be feasible for every program. Just changing one item may have a big impact on increasing participation!

MEAL SERVICE

District currently serves the following meals:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- At Risk After School Supper
- Afterschool Snack

Frequency of meals:

- Monday through Friday meals
- Weekend meals
- Meals over breaks

Elevate School Meals Checklist

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Checklist_-_Elevate_School_Meals_712850_7.pdf

Feedback on County Meetings

- If you attended a meeting in January or February led by your analyst, please provide your feedback: [survey](#)

Free Covid-19 Workplace Safety Consultations for Childcare Centers

Childcare centers can now schedule free COVID-19 workplace safety consultations as part the Ambassador Program through MIOSHA.

- The centers completing the program will receive a window decal to reassure parents that they are implementing the precautions in accordance with MIOSHA's emergency rules.
- Ambassadors will not propose citations or issue penalties. They are there to improve conditions and help comply with regulations on workplace safety.

Employers can sign up at Michigan.gov/COVIDWorkplaceSafety.

• Individuals with specific questions regarding workplace safety and health may contact MIOSHA using the hotline at

855-SAFEC19 (855-723-3219).

Coupon Codes for background checks for Childcare Centers Are Back!

- Only centers who are currently enrolled or licensed as of October 26, 2020 will receive these coupons.
- Each of these centers will be issued 5 coupon codes, with an expiration date of July 1, 2021.
 - Do not use a coupon code on an individual who will not be employed by your childcare center.
- Individuals should only be entered into the Child Care Background Check (CCBC) System at centers where they are employed or have unsupervised access to childcare children.
- All fingerprinted applicants must fill out the Consent and Disclosure Form.

New Training Slides:

Meal Pattern for CACFP

Team Nutrition recently released new meal pattern training slide presentations for CACFP.

- The three new slide presentations include:
 - Mealtimes with Toddlers in the CACFP
 - Serving Vegetables in the CACFP
 - Using the WIC Food Lists to Identify Grains for the CACFP

The presentations can be found at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/meal-pattern-training-slides-cacfp>.

National School Breakfast Week (NSBW)

- March 8th -12th
- Increase student participation
- Spread the message to parents that you're serving healthy breakfasts
- Earn media coverage from local papers, TV stations, and bloggers
- Connect with teachers and administrators to spread the word that school breakfasts are healthy and integral to student learning

<https://schoolnutrition.org/meetings/events/nsbw/2021/>



What can you do to celebrate NSBW?

Check out: [SNA NSBW Website](#)

- Great ideas for **all** learning modes
- Resources are easy and simple to use
- Full marketing and PR Resources are available
- Video recording available for a quick overview of available resources and ideas!

Share your story with MDE and NKH for a chance to be recognized as a 2021 Michigan Breakfast Hero!

- Portal to submit your story will be up on March 8. More details to come!



What Questions do
you have?

**Please enter your questions in the
chat box.**