



Child and Adult Care Food Program

August 2021

Team Nutrition is excited to announce the Institute of Child Nutrition's updated eLearning Portal, now with a fresh, new look and a new name: iLearn!

iLearn provides self-paced, free online learning and offers users the flexibility to complete courses in multiple sessions on desktop, laptop, or mobile devices. ICN has added new features that enhance the eLearning experience, including:

Personalized Profiles: Users can select English or Spanish and their Child Nutrition Program to complete their personalized profile. Courses are now organized to align with USDA's Professional Standard Codes and SNA Key Areas, allowing users to find what is needed to complete their goals. Users will be required to update their profile, language, and area of emphasis in the new iLearn platform when first logging in.

Online Courses in Spanish: iLearn includes ICN's first Spanish online course, Nutrición 101 4ta Edicion. Users can also select Español in their profile for a translated online experience.

iLearn @ ICN Mobile App: Child Nutrition Professionals can download the app and iLearn @ ICN on the go! The iLearn mobile app is available in Google Play and in the Apple App Store.

Coming Soon - Live Webinars! Child Nutrition Professionals can register and attend ICN's scheduled live webinars on iLearn and keep all information and certificates in one location.

Crediting Store Bought Combination Baby Foods in the CACFP

The USDA has released an informative handout on how to credit store bought combination baby food. Review the handout to ensure you are providing the minimum required portion size to infants in your care! As with combination foods served to older participants, combination infant foods served to infants must be creditable. Providers must retain product documentation such the food label and/or a product formulation statement that demonstrates that the food meets crediting requirements.

For more information on creditable foods in the infant meal pattern, see "Appendix F: Infant Foods List" in the "The Feeding Infants in the Child and Adult Care Food Program" at [Feeding Infants in the Child and Adult Care Food Program | USDA-FNS](#)

Handout Link:

https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/resource-files/Crediting_Store-bought_baby_foods.pdf

Brighton CACFP Meal Pattern Trainings

Free on-line trainings
are now available.

Brighton Training
Website link:

[www.
misponsortraining.com](http://www.misponsortraining.com)

New Sponsor Training 2021

(Course name: Michigan 120)

is now live. This training
is for new Sponsors and/
or Sponsors with new staff.

It includes Civil Rights.

Annual Sponsor Training

(Course Name: Michigan 110) is

for returning CACFP sponsors
and also included Civil Rights.

Both provide key training
for new and returning staff.

A link to the training site is
also located on the CACFP
web page under the
training button.



Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Meal Pattern Flexibility Waiver: Effective for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, is now available.

The USDA approved a nationwide waiver for meal pattern flexibility for School Year (SY) 2021-2022 for the CACFP (**Waiver # 91**). This waiver is offered to encourage the safe re-opening of child and adult care facilities throughout the summer and school year of 2021-2022. The USDA expects and strongly encourages Program operators to maintain and meet the nutrition standards for the CACFP to the greatest extent possible to ensure access to safe, nutritious meals.

The CACFP Meal Pattern Flexibility **waiver request form** must be completed to request a waiver. It can be completed at any time during the waiver period.

Complete the waiver form to request any or all of the following items:

- Waive the requirement to serve one whole grain rich (WGR) item per day
- Waive the requirement to begin using ounce equivalents to measure grain servings by October 1, 2021
- Waive the requirement to serve only fat free flavored milk (allows 1% flavored milk for participants ages 6 and up ONLY)

CACFP operators will need to provide targeted, justified reasons for each request(s) to waive the above meal pattern requirements. Reasons given are to demonstrate specific need based on the Sponsor's plans to support access to nutritious meals while minimizing potential exposure to COVID-19. Requests will be approved on a case by case basis for each sponsor. You will be notified via email regarding MDE's decision.

Please keep your participants' health and well-being in mind and seek to meet the meal pattern requirements to the greatest extent possible. All CACFP meal pattern requirements remain in effect.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program form is found on the MDE CACFP webpage under resources and here: **MDE CACFP Meal Pattern Waiver Request Form**

If you have any questions, please contact your program analyst (email is best), Melissa Lonsberry, Program Consultant, at lonsberrym@michigan.gov or the CACFP office at MDE-CNAP-CACFP@michigan.gov.

Cultivate Michigan Marketplace: Growing Connections in Early Care and Education

Later this summer, we will virtually gather early care and education providers, farmers, food suppliers, and farmers market managers in each region of the state to make connections between local food buyers and sellers. Join us to build your network in these virtual meet-the-buyers style events! Food suppliers will make connections and learn how to market and sell to early care and education sites, and child care providers will connect with sellers to purchase local foods for the children they serve

These Cultivate Michigan Marketplace events are for:

- Early Care and Education Providers interested in purchasing local food products from farmers, food suppliers, and farmers markets in their region. Child care centers, family care homes, Head Start and Early Head Start, tribal child care programs, and preschools based in K-12 schools are welcome.
- Food Suppliers interested in selling local foods to early care and education sites in their region. Farmers, farmers market managers, food hubs, processors, and distributors are welcome.

Save the date for your regional event!

Each virtual event will take place from 6:30 – 7:30 pm on the following dates:

- Monday, August 16 – Upper Peninsula
- Tuesday, August 17 - Southwest Michigan
- Wednesday, August 18 – West Michigan
- Thursday, August 19 - Northern Lower Peninsula
- Monday, August 23 - East Michigan
- Tuesday, August 24 - Mid-Michigan
- Wednesday, August 25 - Southeast Michigan
- Thursday, August 26 – Southeast Michigan (Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties)

More details and registration to come soon.

To learn more about farm to early care and education, visit the [Michigan Farm to Early Care and Education Network website](#).



NexSys is the Next Generation Grant, Application and Cash Management System for the Michigan Department of Education

NexSys – Getting Started

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is transitioning from MEGS+ to NexSys for applications and grants. MDE will be providing Zoom trainings for NexSys on the dates and times listed below. These sessions will give the user a brief overview of the basics of MILogin for Third Party account setup, an understanding of the new platform, navigation tips, and guidance on completing applications in NexSys.

These sessions will not include the accounting and cash components of NexSys. Complete accounting and cash trainings will be offered closer to September 1 when the CMS transition to NexSys takes place.

- Monday, August 2, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m. (EST)
<https://zoom.us/j/91775928930?pwd=V0hTTjJBd0lwWDJpSkVkVFNwMDQ1UT09>
- Friday, August 13, 2021 @ 10:00 a.m. (EST)
<https://zoom.us/j/96733965331?pwd=dEh4ekRBRko3YWVIL3dSS3hreDhoQT09>

For more information regarding NexSys, please visit www.Michigan.gov/MDE-NexSys or email:

Email: MDE-NexSys-Applications@Michigan.gov
Email: MDE-NexSys-Accounting@Michigan.gov

CACFP Halftime: Thirty on Thursdays Training Webinars

Meal Service and Menu Planning webinar links:

Menu Planning training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/thirty-thursday-menu-planning-cacfp-halftime>

Healthy Cooking training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/methods-healthy-cooking-cacfp-halftime>

Offer versus Serve training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/halftime-cacfp-offer-versus-serve>

Nutrition facts label training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/using-nutrition-facts-label-cacfp-webinar>

Mealtime for Toddlers training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/mealtimes-toddlers-cacfp-halftime>

Serving Milk in CACFP training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/thirty-thursdays-serving-milk-cacfp-halftime>

Meat and Meal Alternatives for breakfast training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/halftime-cacfp-serving-meat-and-meal-alternatives-breakfast>

Serving Cereal with Lower Sugar training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/thirty-thursdays-choose-breakfast-cereals-lower-added-sugars>

Serving Yogurt with Lower Sugar training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/choose-yogurts-are-lower-added-sugars-cacfp-halftime>

Serving Vegetables training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/serving-vegetables-cacfp-halftime>

CACFP Infant Training webinar links:

Support breastfeeding infants training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp-halftime-how-support-breastfeeding-cacfp>

Feeding Infants 0 to 5 months training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/webinar-6-feeding-infants-0-5-english>

Feeding Infants starting solid food training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/halftime-cacfp-feeding-infants-starting-solids>

How to credit store bought infant foods:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/webinar-crediting-store-bought-combination-baby-foods-cacfp>

CACFP Serving Grains Training webinar links:

CACFP Grains Ounce Equivalents: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/grains-ounce-equivalents-resources-cacfp>

In Grained: Easy Tools to Determine Serving Amounts: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/in-grained-easy-tools-determine-serving-amounts>

Crediting Single-Serving Packages of Grains in the CACFP: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/crediting-single-serving-packages-grains-cacfp-webinar>

Grain based desserts training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/thirty-thursdays-grain-based-desserts-cacfp>

Adding whole grains to your menu training: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/halftime-adding-whole-grains-your-menu>

Identifying whole rich grains training-Part 1: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/identifying-whole-grain-rich-foods-cacfp-part-1>

Identifying whole rich grains training-Part 2: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/identifying-whole-grain-rich-foods-cacfp-part-2>

WIC Food List identifying CACFP creditable foods: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/using-wic-food-list-identify-creditable-foods-cacfp-halftime>



Family Day Care Home Sponsor Expansion Opportunities in CACFP!

The MDE CACFP is looking for eligible organizations to provide oversight and guidance to family day care home providers by becoming a Family Day Care Home (FDCH) Sponsor. All family or group day care homes must come into the program under a sponsoring organization.

Financial assistance is available to a sponsoring organization for its administrative expenses associated with developing or expanding a food service program in family day care homes and initiating successful program operations.

Contact the CACFP Office at 517-241-5353 or MDE-CNAP-CACFP@michigan.gov with any questions.



Income Guidelines for National Free and Reduced Priced Meals for Schools and the Child and Adult Care Food Program are announced.

The Michigan Department of Education has announced the household income guidelines established by the United States Department of Agriculture for free and reduced-price meals and free milk through the National School Lunch, School Breakfast, Special Milk, and Child and Adult Care Food Programs. The income guidelines are effective from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

Families should contact their school, school district, childcare center, or family day care home sponsor to find out whether it participates in these programs.

Schools, childcare centers, adult day care centers, and family day care home sponsors will provide a form for applying for free or reduced-price meals. Only one application is required per household.

Adults, children, or foster children who are recipients of various programs such as Michigan’s Family Independence Program, Food Assistance Program, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, or who are enrolled in Head Start, an AtRisk afterschool center, or an emergency shelter automatically qualify for free meals. Households with incomes less than or equal to the following guidelines qualify for free or reduced-price meals or free milk.

Total Family Size	Scale for Free Meals		Scale for Reduced or Free Milk Price Meals	
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
1	\$16,744	\$1,396	\$23,828	\$1,986
2	\$22,646	\$1,888	\$32,227	\$2,686
3	\$28,548	\$2,379	\$40,626	\$3,386
4	\$34,450	\$2,871	\$49,025	\$4,086
5	\$40,352	\$3,363	\$57,424	\$4,786
6	\$46,254	\$3,855	\$65,823	\$5,486
7	\$52,156	\$4,347	\$74,222	\$6,186
8	\$58,058	\$4,839	\$82,621	\$6,886

For each additional family member add:
 \$5,902 \$492 \$8,399 \$700

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.