

The Fiscal Year 2022 Application has been delayed. MDE will notify program sponsors as soon as it becomes available. Contact your assigned program analyst with any questions or the main CACFP office at 517-241-5353.

Child and Adult Care Food Program October 2021



Calculating Ounce Equivalents of Grains in the CACFP

CACFP Halftime: Thirty on Thursdays Training Webinar Series | USDA-FNS

Are you ready for Ounce Equivalencies? The USDA Team Nutrition has two Thirty on Thursday Webinars for you! These are two great resources to view to learn about grain ounce equivalents. These would be great to view at a staff training session to help spur discussion.



October 1, 2021 is the implementation date for using ounce equivalents in crediting grains for the CACFP. Download this worksheet from the USDA to learn all about how to calculate ounce equivalents for grains.

[Download the Worksheets in English & Spanish](#)

Join the 2021 Great Apple Crunch to celebrate Michigan farmers, healthy kids, and strong communities this October.

Participating in the Crunch is simple: buy, serve, and Crunch into locally grown apples! Since 2014, we have highlighted [National Farm to School Month](#) with MILLIONS of Crunches across the region. [Register](#) your Crunch to make it official, add to the Crunch count, get the scoop on serving local apples, and receive the Crunch Guide. Everyone is invited to Crunch to reach our goal of ONE MILLION CRUNCHES this year.

Noon on Thursday, October 14, 2021 is the official Crunch date, but we welcome your Crunch any time this October. No event is too small to register!

Register your crunch at: https://uwmadison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_77E6greuuYnzbqS

Follow along and share your images on Facebook @ miapplecrunch.

To support your Michigan Apple Crunch:

- Check out Cultivate Michigan resources to help you source Michigan apples from distributors and food hubs for your institutions and promote them in your cafeterias.
- Visit the Michigan Apple Committee website that has searchable tools to help you find Michigan apples at farm markets and stores as well as activities for kids and resources for teachers.
- Go to Michigan Farm to School for a range of resources and tools to help with your ongoing farm to school work at schools and early child care and education (ECE) sites.

Institute of Child Nutrition

Back-to-School

Toolbox Child nutrition professionals can prepare for the 2021-2022 school year with ICN's new back-to-school toolbox, which includes training and resources in one location and arranged by categories, like frontline staff, managers, menu planners and directors. Visit [The ICN.org/Back-to-School](https://www.icn.org/back-to-school) to see everything available.

Virtual At-Risk Afterschool Enrichment Options

To help meet the enrichment activity requirement while providing non-congregate meals, No Kid Hungry has compiled ideas and links of virtual activities kids can complete at home. The format supports documentation to demonstrate to MDE that an activity was offered for each date that meals were served and claimed.

[Click to Get the List of Virtual Enrichment Ideas](#)

Emerging Federal Funding Streams for Farm to Early Care and Education

The American Rescue Plan will be infusing billions of dollars through the early care and education (ECE) sector and food and agriculture systems in the coming months. While severely devastated by the COVID-19 emergency and subsequent economic crisis, both of these sectors are ripe with opportunity to build back with greater equity and resiliency. Farm to early care and education (farm to ECE) can be a component of building back better. Use this funding guide infographic to learn how you can help leverage CACFP, WIC, and additional emerging funding streams to convey the needs and desires of your community, influence equitable use of funds, and elevate opportunities for farm to ECE.

SNA urges USDA to ease school meal requirements

The School Nutrition Association is seeking higher federal reimbursements to support meal costs as well as relief from various regulatory requirements. "The newest waiver is a big help, and USDA has been very responsive," said Diane Pratt-Heavner, SNA's director of media relations. "We continue to hold weekly calls to keep them updated on continued challenges as the supply chain situation evolves."

Full Story: [Education Week \(9/28\)](#)

Serving Snacks in the Child and Adult Care Food Program

Snacks can be a great way to give Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) participants the nutrients and energy they need between meals.



More training, menu planning, and nutrition education materials for the CACFP can be found at <https://teamnutrition.usda.gov>.

Serving Adult Participants in the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) sites serve adult participants who are 18 years or older living with a disability, as well as those who are 60 or older. Not all adults have the same nutrition needs. Health and social changes and lower amounts of physical activity may affect the dietary needs of older adults. The CACFP meal pattern for adults provides flexibilities to allow you to plan meals that best meet the needs of adults in your care. This approach relies on good communication between you, the program operator, and the adult participant (and/or their caregiver).

You can find standardized recipes that meet adult meal pattern requirements at theicn.org/cnr/recipes-cacfp-adult-portions



Child care providers are heroes!

We are grateful for the work you do for our children and communities. Governor Whitmer signed a budget that includes a tremendous investment in child care. We want to highlight a portion of that investment, \$700 million in funding, that will support child care providers like you.

This fall, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is launching the **Child Care Stabilization Grant** to help you keep your doors open and focus on what matters most—supporting kids and families.

We are still finalizing the grant program, but here's what you can expect:

- The Child Care Stabilization Grant application will open in late October. If you own or lead a child care program, you can apply!
- Applications will be available for 30 days. MDE will be verifying your applications as they're submitted.
- At the end of the application period, the state will finalize grant award amounts and issue payments. We anticipate payments will be made by the end of December.

Here's how to get ready:

- Mark your calendar. Applications will open in late October. The application is not available yet.
- Update your public profile. Log in to your public profile for Great Start to Quality. Make sure you can log in, have a working password, verify your licensing information and make sure all other information is accurate and up to date. In addition, make sure your profile has an up to date phone number.
- Get a SIGMA number. If you participated in the Child Care Relief Fund, we'll pre populate your application with the SIGMA number. If you didn't, you'll need to [set up an account](#) with the state to get paid. If you need assistance, email: SIGMA-Vendor@Michigan.gov or call 517-284-0550. The SIGMA Help Desk is open Monday through Friday 7:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Watch your email for more information. We'll send regular updates about this opportunity and more.

Thanks for all you do for kids and your community.

We're celebrating! The Michigan Department of Education has announced the 2021-2022 10 Cents a Meal grantees! Read the [press release](#) and check out the full list of schools, early care and education sites awarded funds on our [about page](#).



USDA-FNS Child and Adult Care Food Program: Providing Multiple Meals at a Time for Children During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

As child care sites work toward resuming regular operations for School Year 2021-2022, USDA continues to work with State Child Nutrition agencies to offer flexibility in response to public health needs and to ease administrative burden, while still promoting nutritious meals. These flexibilities allow Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) operators to provide more than 1 day's worth of meals to eligible children via a single meal pick-up, by the child, parent, or guardian.

For more information see the [USDA Food and Nutrition Service Information Sheet](#)



Team Nutrition Quizzes | USDA-FNS

Test your knowledge and build your nutrition skills with fun Team Nutrition quizzes!



Infant Nutrition Quiz

Are you a baby genius? Find out if you know a lot about feeding babies by taking this quiz



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.



Michigan Nutrition Data System (MIND) 2.0 Office Hours

MIND is getting an upgrade and a new login system! We will be transitioning from using MEIS to MILogin. With the transition, Michigan Department of Education (MDE) wants to make the process as smooth as possible for our participants. We have created help documents available on our website: MDE - Child Nutrition Program - System Help Documents (michigan.gov), but are also going to be holding multiple office hour sessions to assist users that need more hands on help. You will find the dates and times below followed by the Zoom links for the sessions we're offering. If none of these dates or times will work for your schedule, please reach out and we will work to help you.

Topic: MIND 2.0 Office Hours

Date: October 5, 2021

Time: 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85402871957?pwd=MTZudzdobEpSZmhDYnlldVgrUElQQT09>

Password: 757896

Or Telephone:

Dial: USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 806533

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