



# Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) News from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE)

October 25, 2024

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## Coming Soon! New MIND 2.0 Dashboard

MIND 2.0, the system where sponsors submit claims for reimbursement, is undergoing several updates and system upgrades. Over the course of the next year, each of the claiming systems in MIND 2.0 will be overhauled. This will happen one at a time, each with its own release date and additional training resources.

### What is changing?

The first change will be the biggest and that is the landing page and dashboard. This new front door to our systems will look different. From this new dashboard, you will find additional features and data cards based on the programs that you participate in. To access the claim sub-systems, simply click on “MIND Legacy” in the left menu bar.

Additionally, the user management and access request function has been overhauled and will also be available from the left menu. Same functions, new location.

### When are changes expected?

System Upgrade	Estimated Release
Dashboard Interface	Friday, October 25, 2024
User Management and Access	Friday, October 25, 2024

Updated Year End Report Year End Report (YER)	Friday, October 25, 2024
YER for Non School Sponsors of SFSP and CACFP	Mid-December 2024
Claiming Sub-Systems	Rolling release schedule throughout 2025

### **Resources and Training**

MDE has created some training materials to assist you through the transition. See the following links for more information.

- [MIND Dashboard - Help Page](#)
- [MIND Request Access - Help Page](#)
- [MIND User Management - Help Page](#)
- [MIND Year End Report - Help Page](#)

Questions about these changes? Send an email to [MDE-NutritionCoordination@Michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-NutritionCoordination@Michigan.gov). If you have any trouble accessing this or any other systems, contact MDE at [MDE-ONS-Access@Michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-ONS-Access@Michigan.gov).

## **MDE-SNAM Annual Conference**

The MDE-SNAM Annual Conference and Exhibit Show is November 7-10, 2024, at Grand Traverse Resort and Spa in Acme, MI. This is a great opportunity for professional development, networking and fun. There are several Thursday pre-conference options available. Friday is focused on content from MDE for all Child Nutrition Programs. On Saturday, SNAM provides breakout sessions and an exhibit show. [Learn more and register](#) today!

## **Pre-Conference session for MDE-SNAM**

Don't miss Bertrand Weber, Director, Culinary and Wellness Services, Minneapolis Public Schools, leading a conversation about how to prioritize local purchasing in your menus and overall purchasing plan. This interactive session will demonstrate menu planning and USDA foods purchasing strategies to make the most of your food dollars.

Do you wish you had more support and ideas for:

- Menu planning with local foods
  - Fitting in seasonally available produce
  - Scratch cooking, speed scratch cooking and where to start

- Cost management, including
  - Maximizing USDA donated foods
  - Menu balancing
  - How does 10 Cents a Meal fit?
- Local procurement
  - New final rule
  - Finding vendors
  - RFPs and forward contracting

This is a [pre-conference add on](#) opportunity from 9am – 12pm on Thursday, November 7.

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## Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Awards

As part of a cooperative agreement to develop and implement the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service's (FNS) [Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative](#) (HMI), Action for Healthy Kids (AFHK) is offering Recognition Awards to celebrate sponsors that have made significant improvements to the nutritional quality of their school meals. The Recognition Awards will spotlight innovative practices, student and community engagement activities, and strategies schools have used to provide meals that are consistent with the *2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans*.

Interested sponsors can learn more about this opportunity on the [HMI Recognition Awards Webpage](#). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis through June 30, 2025, via the [My AFHK Portal](#). Before completing an application, sponsors must obtain a [State Agency Letter of Support](#) to disclose that they do not have any outstanding corrective actions and that any previous findings have been resolved. Applicants can request this a letter of support from MDE at: [MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov). MDE does not need to review sponsors' applications prior to submission.

Questions about the Recognition Awards and application can be emailed to: [award@healthymealsincentives.org](mailto:award@healthymealsincentives.org).

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## NEW Allergen Posters Available

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) and Michigan Restaurant Association and Lodging Association (MRLA) have published new allergen food allergy posters that include the ninth common allergy, sesame, as declared by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education and Research (FASTER) Act. Posters are available in English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, Bengali, Hindi, and Thai. Sponsors can obtain these posters through their local health department or print off the [Michigan Food Safety website](#).

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## BrucePac Recall

The Michigan Department of Education Office of Nutrition Services (ONS) [Child Nutrition Program \(CNP\) Bulletin No.19](#) provided an update on the BrucePac Recall. Sponsors are strongly encouraged to continue to check the BrucePac [Press Release](#) and [Preliminary List of Schools Impacted](#) to identify any newly recalled products they may have in their inventory. MDE ONS will remain in close communication with USDA and notify additional sponsors added to the list of schools who were identified as purchasing recalled products. For questions about this recall, schools may contact Jeff Golangco, BrucePac, at 503-874-3000, their distributor, or their food service management company.

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## System Access Help

The Michigan Department of Education's Office of Nutrition Services is currently experiencing a transition with staff. Please be advised that responses to any system and/or access related questions may be delayed.

In the meantime, you may be able to find the answer(s) you need on our website.

- If you are unsure of what system you need access to, you can find a summary of each of the systems and what they do [HERE](#).
- If you need step by step instructions for getting access to a system, you can find instructions [HERE](#).
- You can find ALL of the system help documents [HERE](#).

**The new mailbox for all system and access related questions is [MDE-ONS-Access@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-ONS-Access@michigan.gov).**

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## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday @ 2**

**Topic:** FAST: Claims & Payments

**Date:** Tuesday, October 29, 2024

**Time:** 2-2:30 pm

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87268603020>

Or Telephone:

USA 404-443-6397

USA 877-336-1831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

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**Tuesday @ 2**

**Topic:** SNP: Preschool

**Date:** Tuesday, November 12, 2024

**Time:** 2-2:30 pm

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

Or Telephone:

USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 806533

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**Tuesday @ 2**

**Topic:** FD: Procurement Reviews FAQ

**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024

**Time:** 2-2:30 pm

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

Or Telephone:

USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 806533

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**Tuesday @ 2**

**Topic:** SNP: Production Records

**Date:** Tuesday, December 3, 2024

**Time:** 2-2:30pm

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

Or Telephone:

USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 806533

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## Town Hall

**Date:** Wednesday, December 4, 2024

**Time:** 2-3 pm

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81591843268?pwd=xekKVRFGzOtiD0rM6EvKKwUZpFzhQq.1>

Or Telephone:

USA 404 443 6397

USA 877 336 1831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

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## Tuesday @ 2

**Topic:** FD: General Procurement FAQ

**Date:** Tuesday, December 17, 2024

**Time:** 2-2:30 pm

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86270074653>

Or Telephone:

USA 404 443 6397

USA 8773361831 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 806533

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## Updates, Guidance, and Regulation Information from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

### USDA Memo

On October 7, USDA published [Memo SP 01-2025](#) to clarify fluid milk requirements from the April 2024 final rule for meal patterns.

Schools are allowed to offer fat-free and low-fat, flavored and unflavored milk as part of meals and sold a la carte. Unflavored milk must be offered at breakfast and lunch.

The following milk options (flavored and unflavored) meet the meal pattern requirements and can be offered to all students: lactose-free and lactose-reduced milk, cultured milk, acidified milk and ultra high temperature (UHT) milk. Written request is not needed to serve these milks.

Added sugar limit in flavored milk begins July 1, 2025. No more than 10 grams of added sugar per 8 fluid ounces will be allowed. Added sugar limits only apply to cow's milk and not non-dairy fluid milk substitutes.

The final rule did not change requirements related to nondairy fluid milk substitutes. When substituting for a non-disability reason, there must be a written request by medical authority or the child's parent or legal guardian, it is nutritionally equivalent to cow's milk and any additional cost is covered by the school.

Substitutions for a student with a disability need to follow the provided medical statement.

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## Training Corner

### Upcoming ServSafe Manager Training and Certification Opportunities

Looking for Food Manager Certification training and exam opportunities for you and your staff? Carolyn Thomas is hosting an upcoming ServSafe Manager Certification course with examination at Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD) in Clinton Township on Saturday, December 7, 2024 ([Registration Link](#)). Seeking other training dates and/or locations? For more opportunities, check out the [Michigan State University \(MSU\) Extension](#) and [Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Association \(MRLA\)](#) websites.

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### 10 Cents a Meal for Michigan's Kids and Farms Purchase Submission and Reporting Training

Registration for 2024-2025 purchase submission and reporting training is now available. This is the first year we are offering regional in-person purchase submission and reporting trainings for 10 Cents a Meal, and we hope to see you at one of our upcoming sessions!

During this training, we will share best practices for navigating purchasing and reporting for the 10 Cents a Meal grant. We will cover an overview of the program, types of suppliers and where to find them, what products are in season over the next few months, and how to submit food purchases and transportation & labor expenses for reimbursement. Bring your laptop if you would like, or just bring your questions. *There is no cost to attend, but registration is required.*

- [Detroit Area – Tuesday, November 12](#) 2-4 pm at the Macomb ISD Education Service Center
- [Lansing Area – Thursday, November 14](#) 2-4 pm at the Allen Neighborhood Center
- [Upper Peninsula – Tuesday, November 19](#) 2-4 pm at Gwinn High School

- [Northwest Michigan – Wednesday, November 20](#) 2-4 pm at the MDHHS Building in Traverse City
- [Bay Area and Northeast Michigan – Thursday, December 5](#) 2-4 pm at Bay-Arenac ISD
- [Muskegon and Grand Rapids Area – Monday, December 9](#) 2-4 pm at the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center
- [Kalamazoo and Battle Creek Area – Monday, December 16](#) 2-4 pm in Kalamazoo - location is still being confirmed
- [Flint and Thumb Area - Tuesday, December 17](#) 2-4 pm at the Erwin L. Davis Education Center

Please contact [MDE-FarmtoProgram@Michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-FarmtoProgram@Michigan.gov) with any questions.

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## Two School Meal Overview Workshops Offered

The staff of the Michigan Department of Education’s (MDE) School Nutrition Programs Unit is pleased to announce a hands-on, activity-based workshop for food service personnel titled “School Meals Overview Workshop.” This training is targeted to several specific areas: menu development, recipes and labels, production records, meal component tool, cycle menus, application processing, counting and claiming, direct certification, and verification. The workshop will provide active sessions where food service personnel can interact with MDE staff to resolve any issues that would result in findings during an Administrative Review.

The workshop consists of two days – Day One will cover nutrition related information and Day Two will cover administrative information. There is no cost for the workshop and participants are welcome to come one or both days.

**Dates:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024, and Wednesday, November 20, 2024

**Location:** Administration Building, Portage Public Schools, 8107 Mustang Drive, Portage, MI 49002

**Registration links** for [Day 1](#) and [Day 2](#) (each day must be registered for separately)

**Dates:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025, and Wednesday, January 15, 2025

**Location:** Wayne RESA 33500 Van Born Rd, Wayne, MI 48184

**Registration links** for [Day 1](#) and [Day 2](#) (each day must be registered for separately)

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## Frequently Asked Questions

**Question:** Where is the best place to post food safety inspections?

**Answer:** According to 7 CFR 210.13, schools shall obtain a minimum of two food safety inspections during each school year conducted by a State or local governmental agency responsible for food safety inspections. They shall post a report of the most recent inspection conducted in a publicly visible location and provide a copy of the inspection report to a member of the public upon request. When considering the best location to post the most recent food safety inspection, consider what locations in the school are truly open to the public. Due to increased security at most schools over the years, internal spaces such as the cafeteria are no longer open to the general public. For this reason, it is best practice to post the most recent food safety inspection in the front office or at the front of the building (e.g., window at the main entrance).

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## Contact Us

Email: [MDE-SchoolNutrition@Michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SchoolNutrition@Michigan.gov)

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

## Support

### School Nutrition Programs

[www.michigan.gov/schoolnutrition](http://www.michigan.gov/schoolnutrition)

Email: [MDE-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov)

### Summer Food Service Program

[www.michigan.gov/sfsp](http://www.michigan.gov/sfsp)

Email: [mde-sfsp@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-sfsp@michigan.gov)

### Child and Adult Care Food Program

[www.michigan.gov/cacfp](http://www.michigan.gov/cacfp)

Email: [mde-cacfp@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-cacfp@michigan.gov)

### Food Distribution

[www.michigan.gov/mde-fdp](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-fdp)

Email: [mde-fmfd@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-fmfd@michigan.gov)

### Fiscal and Administrative Services

[www.michigan.gov/mde-fast](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-fast)

Email: [MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov)

### Procurement and Contracts

[www.michigan.gov/mde-foodservicecontracts](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-foodservicecontracts)

Email: [mde-fsmc-vended@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-fsmc-vended@michigan.gov)

### School Health and Safety

[www.michigan.gov/cshsp](http://www.michigan.gov/cshsp)

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1. **mail:**  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**  
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**  
[Program.Intake@usda.gov](mailto:Program.Intake@usda.gov)

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