



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

September 26, 2024

America's Healthiest Schools

Congratulations are in order! Michigan has two of [America's Healthiest Schools!](#) Columbia Elementary School (Brooklyn, MI) and Lansing Catholic High School (Lansing, MI) were both recognized for implementing best practices to support the health of staff, students, and families in 2024. The Alliance for a Healthier Generation sponsors the award. Applicants submit proof of implementation of best practices that support physical, mental, and social-emotional health. The 2025 application will be open from January 7 to April 15, 2025. Congratulations, again to our Michigan winners!

New Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) Resource

Have you seen the [Culturally Inclusive Recipes Toolkit for School Nutrition Programs \(theicn.org\)](#)? This new resource walks you through the steps of identifying and creating culturally inclusive recipes for your school. It will help you connect with your community and add to your menu with new dishes.

Michigan Apple Crunch 2024

Each year, thousands of children and adults across Michigan crunch into a Michigan-grown apple as part of the Michigan Apple Crunch. The Crunch is an annual event hosted by [Michigan State University Extension](#) and the [Michigan Farm to Institution Network](#). This year, the official Crunch date is **Thursday, October 17**, though participants are encouraged to crunch anytime during the month of October that works for them.

Sign up to crunch with your K-12 school, early care and education site, homeschool group, workplace, family, or organization. [Register your crunch](#) to help us reach our goal of 350,000 crunches across the state this year. When you register, you'll receive a Crunch Guide with recipes, lesson ideas, and tips for sourcing Michigan Apples.

2025 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Office of Nutrition Services has released its [Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program \(FFVP\) Expected Grant Award List](#) online. The expected grant amount for the 2025 FFVP fiscal year is \$50 per student.

In this competitive grant year, priority was given to schools with more than 85% eligibility (rounded). The eligibility percentage used in the criteria was equal to whichever was greater: the number of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals divided by the total enrollment *or* 1.6 times the number of directly certified students divided by the total enrollment.

Additionally, 2024 FFVP grantees who presented challenges operating the program during the last fiscal year—evidenced by claiming less than 50% of their original award—were not considered for the 2025 FFVP awards.

Schools not included in the 2025 FFVP Expected Grant Award List are encouraged to apply for 2026 FFVP funds next spring.

The 2025 FFVP fiscal year begins on Tuesday, October 1, 2024.

For questions regarding FFVP, please contact MDE by email at mde-ffvp@michigan.gov or by phone at 517-241-5374.

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 exhibit show. [Learn more and register](#) today!

USDA Civil Rights Nondiscrimination Statement Reminder

The USDA Civil Rights Nondiscrimination Statement (NDS) must be posted on the homepage of your foodservice department's webpage. The correct statement for Child Nutrition Programs is on the USDA's website [And Justice for All page](#). The entire statement needs to be on the food service webpage.

Memos Released

Food Service Administrative Memo No. 2 - School Year 2024 - 2025

For information on the School Meals Program Meal, Snack and Milk Reimbursement Rates to School Food Authorities, please see Food Service Administrative Memo No. 2 – School Year 2024 - 2025 at the following link: [Food Service Administrative Memo No. 2](#)

Food Service Administrative Memo No. 3 - School Year 2024 - 2025

For information on the Claim Submission 60-Day Deadline Schedule and Late Claim Exception Options, please see Food Service Administrative Memo No. 3 – School Year 2024 - 2025 at the following link: [Food Service Administrative Memo No. 3](#)

Yearly Public Release

The Michigan Department of Education recently released a press release [Income Guidelines for Free and Reduced-Price Meals Announced](#) on behalf of all sponsors. This release meets the federal regulation 7 CFR 245.5(a)(2). On or about the beginning of each school year, a public release, containing the same information supplied to parents and including both free and reduced-price eligibility criteria shall be provided to the informational media. Individual sponsors should still send the release to local unemployment offices, and to any major employers contemplating large layoffs in the area from which the district draws its attendance.

The Michigan School Meals Program (30d) Lunch and Breakfast Claim Details

The Michigan School Meals program provides additional state funding based on the following formulas.

- For lunch, participating sponsors will receive 30d payments based on the difference between what is received in total free federal reimbursement and total reduced-price/paid reimbursement, and the 31d payment
- For breakfast, participating sponsors will receive 30d payments based on the difference between what is received in total free federal reimbursement and total reduced-price/paid reimbursement

Review details about [State Aid payments](#), including 31d, 31a, and 31f, for more information.

As a reminder, when you are looking at your claim summary report, you may see a negative number for 30d payments, the numbers inside parenthesis. Even though the number shows up as a negative, it is not actually a loss to your program. It means you received \$0 in 30d payments. The number shows up as a year-to-date total, and due to the above calculation, you may see that as a negative number. Always remember, that does not mean money is being taken away from your monthly claim. It means you already receive the full free federal reimbursement rate amount for every meal through the combination of free/reduced-price/paid reimbursements and the 31d payment, so no additional 30d payment will be provided for the month. Please reach out to MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov for clarification.

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.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday @ 2

Topic: FAST: Financial Reporting

Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Time: 2-2:30 pm

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88089379316>

Or Telephone:

USA 404-443-6397

USA 877-336-1831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

Tuesday @ 2

Topic: SNP: Verification

Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Time: 2-2:30 pm

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82431057768>

Or Telephone:

USA 404-443-6397

USA 877-336-1831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

Tuesday @ 2

Topic: FD: Internal Controls and Allowable Costs

Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2024

Time: 2-2:30 pm

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82444745442>

Or Telephone:

USA 404-443-6397

USA 877-336-1831 (US Toll Free)
Conference Code: 806533

Town Hall

Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Time: 2-3 pm

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81220693412?pwd=Af7VBk0dDcDnpdSJyTAOl0ihF4rdKU.1>

Or Telephone:

USA 214 765 0479

USA 8882780296 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 354950

Tuesday @ 2

Topic: Celebrate Farm to School Month

Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Time: 2-2:30 pm

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81363727618>

Or Telephone:

USA 404-443-6397

USA 877-336-1831 (US Toll Free)

Conference Code: 806533

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

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

USDA is working to update materials to reflect the changes with the Final Rule, Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The Crediting in Child Nutrition Programs tip sheet series has been updated and is available at [Crediting Tip Sheets in Child Nutrition Programs](#). Serving School Meals to Preschoolers and [Whole Grain Resource for NSLP and SBP](#) have both been updated as well.

Training Corner

School Meals Overview Workshop Scheduled in Gaylord

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 "Targeted Training." This workshop 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.

Date: Wednesday, October 2, 2024 (Day 1) and Thursday, October 3, 2024 (Day 2)

Location: Kirtland University Center, 80 Livingston Blvd, Gaylord, MI 49735, room U111/112 (building is shared with MTEC)

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



Frequently Asked Questions

Question: My Coordinated Application was approved this summer, but the August 2024 meal claim isn't available. What do I do?

Answer: Please email your SNP analyst or MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov. Please include your school district agreement number.

Question: Is a 2 oz. equivalents cheese omelet, 1 cup mixed melon and 1 cup of 1% milk a reimbursable K-12 breakfast?

Answer: Yes, it is. Starting July 1, 2024, a new meal pattern flexibility is available. The grains and meat/meat alternate are a combined group, so you can serve one or the other, or a combination of both. The Breakfast Meal pattern chart is updated at www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/nutrition-standards/sbp-meal-pattern

Contact Us

Email: 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

Email: MDE-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov

Summer Food Service Program

www.michigan.gov/sfsp

Email: mde-sfsp@michigan.gov

Child and Adult Care Food Program

www.michigan.gov/cacfp

Email: mde-cacfp@michigan.gov

Food Distribution

www.michigan.gov/mde-fdp

Email: mde-fmfd@michigan.gov

Fiscal and Administrative Services

www.michigan.gov/mde-fast

Email: MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov

Procurement and Contracts

www.michigan.gov/mde-foodservicecontracts

Email: mde-fsmc-vended@michigan.gov

School Health and Safety

www.michigan.gov/cshsp

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted 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; or
2. **fax:**
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**
Program.Intake@usda.gov

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