

Child Nutrition Thursday Update

In this week's Thursday Update

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Welcome to this week's edition of the Child Nutrition Thursday Update! The Thursday Update is your one stop to stay informed about all the updates, changes and exciting things happening in the National School Lunch Program.

Meals at No Charge

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) Application

State Local Food Fund

Summer Lawn Signs

Submitting pdf Documents

Child Nutrition Training

Shout Outs!



Meals at No Charge

We are still getting questions about Meals at No Charge and whether or not it is permanent. The law can be found at [Maine Legislature Maine Revised Statutes](#).

Session Law

Statutes

Maine State Constitution

Information

◀ §6601-A

Title 20-A: EDUCATION

§6603 ▶

Part 3: ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Chapter 223: HEALTH, NUTRITION AND SAFETY

Subchapter 7: SCHOOL LUNCH AND MILK PROGRAM

§6602. School food service programs

Public schools shall provide nonprofit school food service programs as follows. [PL 1981, c. 693, §5, 8 (NEW).]

1. Participation. A public school shall participate in food service programs.

A. A public school shall participate in the National School Lunch Program in accordance with 7 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 210 (2007) and provide Type A meals as determined by the United States Department of Agriculture. [PL 2007, c. 539, Pt. IIII, §1 (NEW).]

B. A public school or a private school approved for tuition purposes, as defined in section 1, subsection 23, that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students as determined by the previous year's October and April average enrollment and participates in the National School Lunch Program in accordance with 7 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 210 (2007) that serves breakfast shall provide a student who is eligible for free and reduced-price meals under paragraph A a meal that meets the requirements of the federal School Breakfast Program set forth in 7 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 220 (2007) at no cost to the student. The State shall provide to the public school or private school funding equal to the difference between the federal reimbursement for a free breakfast and the federal reimbursement for a reduced-price breakfast for each student eligible for a reduced-price breakfast and receiving breakfast. [PL 2021, c. 759, Pt. D, §1 (AMD).]

D. A public school or a private school approved for tuition purposes, as defined in section 1, subsection 23, that enrolls at least 60% publicly funded students as determined by the previous year's October and April average enrollment and participates in the National School Lunch Program in accordance with 7 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 210 (2007) that serves lunch shall provide a student who is eligible for free and reduced-price meals under paragraph A a meal that meets the requirements of the federal National School Lunch Program set forth in 7 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 210 (2019) at no cost to the student. The State shall provide to the public school or private school funding equal to the difference between the federal reimbursement for a free lunch and the federal reimbursement for a reduced-price lunch for each student eligible for a reduced-price lunch and receiving lunch. [PL 2021, c. 759, Pt. D, §2 (AMD).]

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Applications Open!

Applications to participate in FFVP in School Year 2025 are now open! To access the applications, log into CNP web, select “SNP” then Program Year 2025.

Under the “Forms” tab an application will show up for each eligible school. Read the table below for more information and common questions we receive:

Which schools are eligible to participate?	Elementary schools, or any school with a combination of grades PreK-8
How are schools awarded?	Priority must be given to schools with the highest percent of free/reduced eligible students; however, all eligible schools are welcome to apply.
When are applications due?	A complete FFVP application is due on Friday, April 26th . A “pending approval” application in CNP web means it is complete!
Is this the same as the DoD Fresh Program?	No, this is a separate program and funding source to provide fresh fruits and vegetables outside of breakfast and lunch times.
If I have questions on FFVP who do I contact?	Stephanie Stambach stephanie.stambach@maine.gov #207-215-9437.



State Local Foods Fund Update

Moving forward, please email your STATE Local Foods Fund (LFF) claims to Katie Knowles at katie.knowles@maine.gov by the 12th of each month. Please continue to submit your FEDERAL Local Food for Schools (LFS) funds claims through CNP Web.

If you have any questions, email Katie!

Jodi's Financial Corner

jodi.truman@maine.gov

If you have submitted a claim for Maine Local Foods Reimbursement this school year, all payments have been dispersed. Moving forward, payments should be dispersed by the end of the month when a claim is submitted before the 12th of the month.

Summer

If you are interested in Lawn Signs for your 2024 Summer Food Service Program open sites, please email paula.nadeau@maine.gov and let her know how many signs you would like. Signs will be provided on a first come, first serve basis. Signs are only available for open SFSP sites to advertise the location to the community. They can be for congregate or non-congregate open meal sites.

It's a **Hot Lunch Summer!** 

Free Meals for Kids & Teens

SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM 

ALL Across Maine



To find a location near you, scan this QR Code, visit hotlunchsummer.com, or text "Summer Meals" to (914) 342-7744

This institution is an equal opportunity provider



Submitting pdf Documents to Child Nutrition

When submitting pdf documents to our office please be sure that they are sent from an email and that the document name indicates what you are sending. We receive several that are sent from the scanner and/or the document name is a number. When documents are sent to us like this, there is a risk that they are going to our junk folders or will be reported as phishing and being deleted.



Child Nutrition Training

It is a Department of Education policy that the only allowable form of payment for training is a credit card.

When registering for an in person training that requires payment please be sure that all of the information you have entered, for your credit card is correct.

Errors occur when the information you have entered does not match the information linked to the card.

For example, the address that the card is connected to.

Every time you attempt to register and enter your credit card information, a charge will be pending on your credit card statement.

Child Nutrition does not manage the registration program.

To avoid registering more than once, please be sure to mark your calendars as a reminder of the upcoming training.

When entering a virtual meeting please be sure to use your first and last name. Due to the rules set in place by our IT Department, if we cannot tell who you are, you risk being removed from the meeting.

You will also risk not getting credit for attending.

Certificates are sent to those who registered and we can see have attended the live webinar. If the Zoom link is shared and we don't have you on the registration list, we also do not have your email address to send a certificate. Please track your training.

Child Nutrition Training Opportunities

Registration links are in the title or can be found on our website

Know Your Numbers

March 21st @ 1:30pm

Zoom Meeting

Learn additional tools to help you calculate Operating ratios, Meal Equivalents, Meals per labor hour and Meal cost. Bring last year's Annual Financial Report for hands on activities.

Edit Checks Webinar

March 25th @ 1:30pm

Edit checks are a required internal control measure where daily meal counts are compared to student enrollment. Prior to filing the claim for reimbursement, meal count edit checks must be performed. This webinar will review the requirements for counting and claiming reimbursable meals and completing daily edit checks.

In Person SFSP Training

Experienced Sponsor Training

March 28, 2024

9:00am-12:00pm

Child Nutrition Office

Deering Building

Room 101

90 Blossom Lane

Augusta

We have reached capacity for this training. Please contact Paula if you would like to be placed on a waiting list.

Experienced Sponsor Training

This training is for experienced Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors. In this session, sponsors will hear about updates to the SFSP and receive a refresher on SFSP requirements. There are many changes to 2024 operations. This training will offer an in-person opportunity to review them.

April 4, 2024

9:00am-12:00pm

Dennis Paper

Ron Dennis Conf. Ctr.

101 Mecaw Road

Hampden

New and Make-up Sponsor Training

May 9, 2024

9:00am-12:00pm

Child Nutrition Office

Deering Building

Room 101

90 Blossom Lane

Augusta

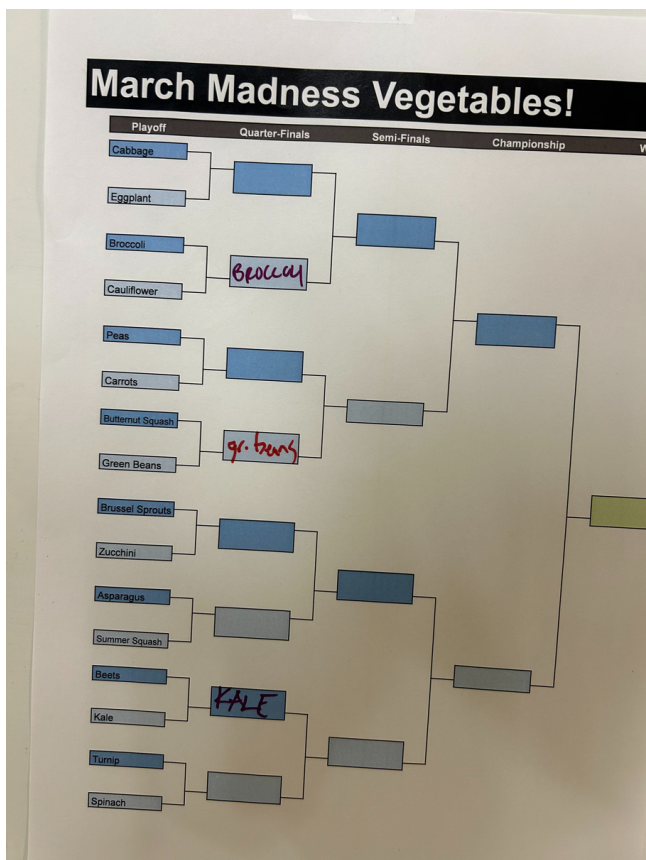
This training is for new Summer Food Service Program sponsors. It is also an opportunity for experienced sponsors to receive a more in depth training opportunity. In this session, sponsors will receive a comprehensive overview of the SFSP requirements in Maine. This training is required for new sponsors operating in 2024. There will be a break for lunch.

Shout Out!!

March Madness-Vegetables

During the month of March, Tremont Elementary School is getting in on the March Madness action but instead of picking the winning collegiate basketball team, they are picking a winning vegetable. Two different vegetables are prepared and offered to students. After meal service, Julie Harris, Kitchen Manager surveys the students who took the vegetables to see which they preferred. David Hartley was in Tremont the day they chose a winner between summer squash and asparagus. Asparagus won by a landslide! At the end of the month there will be an overall preferred vegetable.

Keep us posted Julie!





Seven Directors and Jane McLucas attended the national Legislative Action conference March 2-5. There they listened to the USDA and got to 'March the Hill,' to meet our Senators and Representatives. They expressed their appreciation for Meals for All in Maine, and supported the other states that are fighting for that. They also expressed the frustration with the new USDA projected guidelines coming out in April

What an honor to represent MAINE!

Thank you, Whitney Thornton, for sharing!!