

Check in with CANS

January 8, 2026, 2:30PM CT/1:30PM MT

CANS Phone: (605) 773-3413
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Welcome!

All Program Reminders or Updates:

Update iCAN Applications: Has your organization had any recent staffing changes? If so, please update your iCAN application! This ensures inactive staff are removed and communications reach the right people. After making updates, don't forget to submit the application for approval so we can process the changes.

iMATCH User Updates: Along with iCAN applications, the iMATCH system also needs to be updated as staff changes. Please remember to contact CANS when changes occur and request an iMATCH form to add/remove users to keep records up to date.

Claim Reminder for All Child and Adult Nutrition Programs: Don't forget to submit your monthly reimbursement claims! All claims must be submitted by the 10th of each month to ensure timely processing and payment. Late submissions may result in delayed reimbursement, so please plan ahead and submit on time.

Pathways to Child Nutrition Success 2026 Registration! [Registration](#) is now open for the conference. The conference will take place June 9-11, 2026, in Pierre, SD and is open to all Child Nutrition Program Operators. This training will meet all School Nutrition Program and Child and Adult Care Food Program annual training requirements.

Product Formulation Statement Updates. The [Tips for Evaluating a Manufacturer's Product Formulation Statement](#) webpage was updated to assist CNP operators with evaluating a manufacturer's PFS. Program operators are encouraged to review information about manufacturer documentation, including CN labels, found here: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/manufacturer-documentation>.

Farm to Child Nutrition Reminders or Updates:

Potential Grant Opportunity

Harvest of the Month Spotlight on [Potatoes](#)

- Each meal pattern component includes
 - [Fact Sheet](#)
 - Talking Points/Helpful Hints
 - [Recipes](#)
 - [Trivia Questions](#)
 - [Coloring Sheet](#)
 - [Graphics](#)

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Reminders or Updates:

[CACFP 06-2025](#) – Feeding Infants and Meal Pattern Requirements in the CACFP; Questions and Answers

- April 25, 2024, The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) published the final rule, “Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans” (89 FR 31962), to better align program nutrition requirements for consistency with the goals of the most recent edition of the Dietary Guidelines. [2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines](#).
- The final rule went into effect on October 1, 2025, which limits the amount of added sugars in cereals and yogurts. [CACFP 07-2024](#).
 - Breakfast cereals must contain no more than 6 grams of added sugars per dry ounce (7 CFR 226.20(a)(4)(ii))
 - Yogurt must contain no more than 12 grams of added sugars per 6 ounces (2 grams of added sugars per ounce) (7 CFR 226.20(a)(5)(iii)(B)).

School Nutrition Program (SNP) Reminders or Updates:

North Dakota January 2026 Kitchen Counter Conversations: Menu Planning + Procurement: A Winning Formula for Child Nutrition Operations: Join us for our first *Kitchen Counter Webinar* of 2026! On Jan. 20, 2026, at 2 p.m. CST we will dive into the essentials of effective menu planning and smart purchasing. This session will explore how to make the most of cycle menus, including practical tips, tricks, and techniques to streamline menu writing and enhance consistency, creativity, and compliance in your meal programs. This presentation will also cover procurement best practices, helping you strengthen your purchasing process, ensure compliance, and support cost-effective operations. Whether you’re new to menu planning or looking to refine your current approach, this webinar will offer actionable insights you can put to use right away. [Register Here!](#)

Net Cash Resources: This is a reminder that Net Cash Resource (NCR) letters requesting corrective action plans that were sent out in December for the 5-month limit are due tomorrow, Friday, January 9. Additionally, we noticed several sponsors exceeding the 3-month NCR limit this year. As we transition back to the 3-month limit next school year, we strongly encourage you to calculate your current NCR now. If your balance is above the allowable limit, please begin planning to spend down funds appropriately to remain in compliance. Notices will be sent to schools exceeding the 3-month limit; however, no action will be required at this time. If you have questions or need assistance with calculations or allowable expenditures, please reach out.

On-Site Monitoring: School Food Authorities (SFAs) with more than one school site must complete an on-site review of meal counting and claiming systems each school year before February 1. This review is required for all schools operating the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and at least 50% of schools operating the School Breakfast Program (SBP). Each on-site review must ensure the school’s claim is based on the counting and claiming system, as approved by CANS in the annual application, and yields the actual number of reimbursable free, reduced price, and paid meals, respectively, served for each day of operation. If issues are identified, corrective action must be implemented, and a follow-up review must be completed within 45 days to confirm resolution. If you haven’t completed your [on-site monitoring](#) yet, be sure to do so as soon as possible.

Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Program (FFVP): This is a friendly reminder to ensure you are utilizing your FFVP funds and submitting claims through iCAN. Should you require assistance with this process, please do not hesitate to reach out. Additionally, now is an ideal time to review your fund balance and plan for expenditures for the remainder of the school year.

Schools with FSMCs: For schools with Food Service Management Companies (FSMCs) contract that are ending this year and those schools who may be considering bringing on an FSMC, Request for Proposal (RFP) season is just around the

corner. We are in the process of reviewing the RFP Template, FSMC Contracts and Renewal packets for updates. Look for more information to come in the next few weeks.

USDA Foods in School/Food Distribution Program Reminders or Updates:

USDA Foods Pre-Survey. The Pre-Survey link was emailed to all schools yesterday. This quick, five-minute Microsoft Forms survey lists USDA Foods for the 2026–27 school year. Your responses will help determine which items appear on the Annual Survey in iCAN this February. Please complete it when you can—your input matters.

DoD FFAVORS Reminder. Please ensure you receipt your DoD Fresh/FFAVORS orders within two days of delivery. USDA is monitoring schools that miss this step, so timely receipting is essential.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and SNP Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Reminders or Updates:

The 2026 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Administrative Training registration is now open! Please register by February 16, 2026.

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/g/iMB104Bsdj>

Registration includes SFSP banner request, and the registration will also be posted on the SFSP website under the Training tab.

- **SFSP Experienced Sponsor Training** (online only) will be on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM CST via **Zoom**.
- **SFSP New Sponsor Training** (in-person only) will be held at the Department of Education on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM CST.
- **SFSP Grab and Go Training** (in-person only) will be held at the Department of Education on Thursday, March 12, 2026, from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM CST.
 - **As a reminder**, this meal service option is for experienced sponsors that successfully operated SFSP congregate meal service last summer, and plan to operate grab and go at their site(s).

School Nutrition Programs (SNP) Seamless Summer Option (SSO). If your SFA typically operates SSO please begin thinking about your operations. More information regarding training opportunities for SSO will be shared in our next Check in with CANS call.

Upcoming Trainings or Calls:

Check in with CANS Zoom calls occur on the first Thursday of each month at 2:30pm CT / 1:30pm MT.

- [Zoom](#) link for SY2025-26 – Meeting ID: 994 1571 3462
- The next call will be Thursday, February 5, 2026

On Demand Training From CANS: Current training videos can be found at <https://sded.sd.gov/>. Use the categories drop down to select Child and Adult Nutrition Services to filter training options. Enroll in your selected training videos. If you are looking for old *Crash Course with CANS* training videos, they are all under Crash Course with CANS simply enroll to access the entire list of short training videos.

Thank you for joining us today and for your service feeding children across South Dakota!