

Check in with CANS

March 6, 2025, 2:30PM CT/1:30PM MT

CANS Phone: (605) 773-3413
CANS Website: <http://doe.sd.gov/cans>
CANS Email: DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us

Welcome!

All Program Reminders or Updates:

- **Staff Updates:** CANS has a new face! Quynn Verhelst has joined our division as our new Senior Secretary.
- **March is National Nutrition Month:** Governor Rhoden has [proclaimed](#) that March 2025 is “Nutrition Month” in South Dakota. Each year, March is designated as National Nutrition Month. This started in 1980 after it was expanded from National Nutrition Week, which began in 1973, in response to growing interest in nutrition. This year’s theme is Food Connects Us. Share with us how you plan to celebrate all month long!
- **Pathways to Child Nutrition:** Registration is now open! Our annual conference will be June 9-12th, 2025 at Brandon Valley High School, Brandon, SD. Join us to discover new strategies to implement and deliver the most effective nutrition program in the state. <https://forms.office.com/g/hnwkey1cUG>

Farm to School (F2S) Updates:

- **Menu planning:** As you work on your SY 25-26 menus, make sure you identify opportunities within those menus to serve local foods.
- **Pathways to Child Nutrition:** F2S is offering 2 sessions of our daylong training. One session is June 9. The other session is June 10. You attend only one session. Field trips in the morning, cooking of local food in the afternoon.

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

- **Annual Trainings:** Just a reminder that annual trainings are due on September 30th. All required training topics will be covered at the Pathways Conference in June.

School Nutrition Program (SNP) Reminders or Updates:

- **Equipment Grant update:** We are currently reviewing submitted applications. Awards will be made by the end of March.
- **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP):** If you want to learn more about CEP and how to apply you can access the CEP Timeline and iMATCH Basics webinar on the [DOE Online Learning Platform](#). This webinar discusses the basics of Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a timeline to follow if you are interested in applying, and some of the basic functions of the iMATCH system. You must enroll in the School Nutrition Course to access this training.

- **Buy American:** What Schools Need to Know for Fall 2025. School Food Authorities (SFAs) are required to purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodities or products. In SY 2025-2026, non-domestic food purchases cannot exceed 10% of total commercial food expenditures, encouraging a stronger shift toward domestic products. The USDA offers a [webinar](#) on the new regulations taking effect in Fall 2025. It reviews the recently published memo, [Buy American Provisions Related to the Final Rule: Child Nutrition Programs](#), and teaches SFAs how to use the [Buy American exceptions tracker](#). For SY 2025-26, SFAs unable to meet the threshold for non-domestic food purchases may request temporary relief by submitting the [SFA Accommodation Plan SY 2025-26 waiver](#) to their state agency while working toward compliance with Buy American requirements. For more information, please refer to memo [SP 09-2025](#).
- **Fresh Fruit 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. We will be contacting schools that have large remaining balances of their allocated funds. If you know that you won't be able to spend your funds by the end of the school year, please contact our office for some options.

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

- **Reminder to spend entitlement:** The USDA Foods April order form is open until Monday, March 10 at 9:00 am. There will be one more USDA Foods order for May delivery. USDA product is limited on the order form.
- **DoD Fresh/FFAVORS:** If your district would like to move entitlement to DoD Fresh/FFAVORS contact Darcy in the Food Distribution Office by Tuesday, March 11 at 3:00 p.m.

SNP Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Reminders or Updates:

- **Seamless Summer Option:** This program is available to schools participating in the school nutrition programs. SSO is an extension of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program designed for schools that wish to provide meals over the summer months to their communities, but do not want to change program operations to meet the requirements of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). If you are planning to operate the Seamless Summer Option (SSO), please reach out to CANS to update your application. Applications open in iCAN on March 17. If you need a refresher on SSO operations, you can access the training video available on our [DOE Professional Learning Platform](#).

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Reminders or Updates:

- **Training Reminder:** Both in-person trainings will be held at the MacKay Building in Pierre from 8:30-1:00 CT. The Grab and Go Training is on March 12 and the New Sponsor Training is on the 13.
- **Applications Opening:** Applications have a tentative opening date of March 19. Be on the lookout for that email.

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 SY2024-25 – Meeting ID: 984 7563 6311, Passcode: 317903. Mark your calendars! Check in with CANS calls months and dates for this year:
 - **April 3**
 - **May 1**
 - **June 5** (tentative)

- **On Demand Training From CANS:** We are transitioning all trainings into the DOE online professional development platform and removing them from the CANS websites. 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!**