south dakota
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Learning. Leadership. Service.

Check in with CANS

March 5, 2026, 2:30PM CT/1:30PM MT

CANS Phone: (605) 773-3413
CANS Website: http://doe.sd.gov/cans
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Welcome!

All Program Reminders or Updates:

2026 Pathways to Child Nutrition Success Summer Conference
Pathways is scheduled for June 9-11 in Pierre, SD. Registration is now OPEN! The deadline to register is May 22. Sessions will offer instruction in important areas within Child Nutrition Programs. Learn ways to implement and deliver the best nutrition program in the state! Travel costs are allowable to your school foodservice program. Register today!

USDA Memo SP 02-2026, CACFP 01-2026, SFSP 01-2026 – Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2025-2030 – Eat Real Food
On February 11, USDA released a memo titled Dietary Guidelines for Americans – 2025-2030 – Eat Real Food. This memo informs CNP operators of the release of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans that were released on January 7, 2026. The release of the new dietary guidelines kicks off a multi-year effort to update USDA's child nutrition programs based on this guidance. FNS is actively developing a proposed rule to update nutrition standards and meal pattern requirements to align with the goals of the new dietary guidelines. Additionally, USDA is developing an education campaign to accompany this new edition of the guidelines to support healthy eating outside of school settings.

Until a final rule implementing changes to the meal pattern requirements is complete, all program operators should continue meeting current requirements. Once a rule is released, CANS will share that information and updates to the requirements via our normal channels.

iCAN System Update
iCAN is now back up and running. If you are still experiencing any problems, please let us know!

Farm to Child Nutrition Reminders or Updates:

Farm to School Grants will be available very soon
The grant objective will support Farm to School (F2S) initiatives that expand children's knowledge and exposure to foods grown and eaten in SD. Application deadline will be April 20, 2026. This is a competitive grant process, and applications will be approved on a rolling basis. All projects must be completed by Sept. 15, 2026. Grants funding is at a minimum of $1,000 to a maximum of $15,000. There will be office hours available for questions. The list of dates/times will be on the first page of the grant application information. Also note: Everyone (other than public schools) is required to complete Appendix A UEI and Risk Assessment document and submit that as part of your grant application.

USDA Memo SP 03-2026, CACFP 02-2023, SFSP 02-2026 – Incorporating Local Beef into Child Nutrition Program Meals
On February 19, USDA released a memo titled Incorporating Local Beef into Child Nutrition Program Meals. This memo outlines steps that already exist within the Child Nutrition Programs to utilize local beef. The memo also provides links to several resources that CNP operators can utilize if they are interested in serving local beef.

One of those resources is memo SP 01-2016, CACFP 01-2016, and SFSP 01-2016. This memo was revised in November of 2023. This document answers several questions related to buying local meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs. The memo seeks to clarify the regulatory requirements related to food safety and has a helpful FAQ as part of the memo. Here is the link to that memo.

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

Annual Training Requirements
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:

National School Breakfast Week
It's school breakfast week (March 2–6) and we would love to see what kind of exciting events and activities you are implementing with the theme **"The Quest for School Breakfast"**. This annual campaign highlights the importance of a nutritious morning meal in helping students succeed, encouraging schools to promote healthy choices, boost participation, and use themed, magical, or adventure-filled activities. Spread the word through your newsletters or social media and reach out to CANS to share the events of this exciting week!

Community Eligibility Provision Reporting Requirement
Each school year, **all** SFAs (whether interested in CEP or not) are required to complete the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Site List Report in iCAN. **This report will open on April 1, 2026, and will close on April 10, 2026.**

CANS will be hosting a live training to go over this reporting requirement on March 19, 2026, at 2:30 pm CST.

Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 583 442 3823

If you cannot join this training please use the CEP Reporting Instructions to complete this report which can also be found on the CANS SNP website under the "School Meal Programs Requirements" section.

ND Team Nutrition: Reducing Added Sugar Culinary Training for South Dakota School Nutrition Professionals
Join us in person for a day filled with learning and delicious food. This event will focus on the latest updates in meal patterns, with special emphasis on reducing added sugars. Our culinary training will provide hands-on experience and tips for creating delicious recipes that fit the meal pattern's dietary specifications. Please join us for **ONE** of the culinary training sessions held **April 17, 2026,** at **Tri-Valley School District** in **Colton, SD**. The Added Sugar Intensive course will be available in a virtual format and serve as a prerequisite to the culinary experience. Upon registration, a representative from ND Team Nutrition will reach out with information regarding the online learning platform: North Dakota Educational Hub

- **Morning Session: Friday April 17th 9 AM – 12PM – Colton, SD**
- **Afternoon Session: Friday April 17th 1 PM – 4PM – Colton, SD**

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

DoD Fresh/FFAVORS: If you have any issues with your FFAVORS account contact Chul Ha (Spencer) at 801-865-2683 or chul.ha@dla.mil and/or Sharon Roth at 445-737-7610 or sharon.roth@dla.mil. Please be sure that you have receipted your DoD Fresh/FFAVORS within **two days** of your delivery.

Seamless Summer Option (SSO):

What is 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 20. If you need a refresher on SSO operations, you can access the training video available on our DOE Professional Learning Platform.

Grab and Go
If you are interested in operating a grab and go model for SSO, please reach out to CANS at DOE.Schoollunch@state.sd.us by March 13. Grab and go has training requirements that must be met prior to operations.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Reminders or Updates:

Summer 2026 Reimbursement Rates
The USDA has released the reimbursement rates for Summer 2026. Sponsors are encouraged to review the updated rates and incorporate them into operational planning for the upcoming summer.

Summer 2026 Applications have a tentative opening date of March 16, so be on the lookout for the notification email.

SFSP Administrative Training Reminder
The administrative training for SFSP operations will be held next week. Training for new sponsors will be held online on March 11, and training for sponsors new to Grab and Go operations will be held in Pierre at the Mackay building on March 12. As a reminder, administrative training is required to be completed before your SFSP application will be approved.

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, April 2, 2026

On Demand Training From CANS: Current training videos are located on the DOE online professional development platform. 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!