

Check in with CANS

April 2, 2026, 2:30PM CT/1:30PM MT

CANS Phone: (605) 773-3413
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Welcome!

All Program Reminders or Updates:

Pathways to Child Nutrition Success Conference 2026

Registration is open! Join us June 9–11, 2026, in Pierre, SD, for our annual conference. Discover innovative strategies to implement and deliver the most effective nutrition programs across the state. This training conference is designed for all Child Nutrition Programs and fulfills CACFP training requirements. If you plan to register for pre-conference sessions, attendance at all other conference days is required. Sessions fill quickly—reserve your spot today! The deadline to Register is May 22, 2026. [Pathways Registration](#).

Update iCAN Applications

Has your organization had any staffing changes recently? If so, please don't forget to update the iCAN application! Making these updates informs our office to remove inactive staff's access to iCAN and helps ensure that our office communications are sent to the correct people! If any changes are made to the application, please don't forget to submit the application for approval so our office can approve 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.

Farm to Child Nutrition Reminders or Updates:

Grant Opportunity

Farm to School (F2S) [grant opportunity is now open!](#) with funding available for projects between \$1,000 and \$15,000. This grant supports initiatives that increase students' exposure to foods grown and eaten in South Dakota through:

- Local food procurement (grant does not allow you to solely purchase local food)
- Food, agriculture, or nutrition education
- School gardening projects

Key Dates

- Applications accepted on a rolling basis with a **deadline of April 20, 2026**
- All projects must be completed by **September 15, 2026**

Eligibility

Applicants must be affiliated with a USDA Child Nutrition Program (CNP), including the School Nutrition Programs (SNP), the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), or the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). However, applicants do not have to be the child nutrition programs director or staff. Examples of eligible applicants include:

- School principals, administrators, or curriculum coordinators
- Agriculture, environmental science, or family and consumer sciences teachers
- Food service directors

- Child care center directors, preschool teachers, early childhood educators
- Head Start coordinators, family child care providers, CACFP sponsors

Please pass this along to others who may be interested within your agency. You can direct questions to [Janelle Peterson](#) or call at 605-679-6788 or attend [office hours](#). Dates and times of office hours can be found on page 1 of the grant application.

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

Updated Resource – CACFP Crediting Handbook

The revised [CACFP Crediting Handbook](#) is now available online. It supports CACFP operators in planning meals and snacks that meet USDA meal pattern requirements and works alongside the [Food Buying Guide](#). The updated handbook includes current meal pattern information, crediting guidance for all components, a “Crediting in Action” practice section, and helpful resources. Revisions focus on clearer guidance, new examples, and language that aligns with current policy.

School Nutrition Program (SNP) Reminders or Updates:

ND Team Nutrition: Reducing Added Sugar Culinary Training for South Dakota School Nutrition Professionals (Melissa)

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. This 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](#)

Celebrate School Lunch Hero Day! May 1, 2026

When we call school nutrition professionals heroes, we truly mean it. Each spring, we celebrate their dedication, care, and hard work with **School Lunch Hero Day**. Join schools across the country in recognizing the vital role these team members play every day—nourishing students, supporting learning, and making a difference for every child who walks through the cafeteria doors. Visit the School Nutrition Association website for [ideas and resources](#) to help you celebrate and recognize these heroes!



iMATCH Automated Email Notification

If you have received an automated message from Primero Edge regarding a “Grace Period”, you can disregard at this time. We are working with Primero’s support team to resolve the issue.

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 opened on April 1, 2026, and will close on April 10, 2026.**

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. On DOE’s online professional development platform, you may go back and watch the reporting webinar that can be found at the [DOE Professional Learning Platform](#).

Summer School and Extending the NSLP/SBP School Year

If you are planning to have summer school and would like to continue feeding (only) the kids that are enrolled in summer school, please let us know, and we will help you make the necessary iCAN SNP application updates.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Outreach – Due Before the Last Day of School

All SFAs are required to inform households before the end of the school year of the availability and location of meals offered through the SFSP. Outreach for SFSP must be completed by all SFAs regardless of whether SFSP is offered by the SFA itself. SFAs distribute information through means normally used to communicate with households of enrolled children. This may include newsletters, automatic calling and texting services, email, mailings, or by posting it to your website. Here are three easy ways to find a meal site near you: visit the [Summer Meals Site](#), text "Summer Meals" (in English or Spanish) to 914-342-7744, or call 1-866-348-6479. Feel free to use our [SFSP outreach flyer](#) to communicate SFSP information.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Spending Reminder (FFVP)

The program year end is fast approaching! 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.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Application Request (FFVP)

[Application Request](#) for SY 2026-27 for **New Participants**. If you are interested in adding the FFVP, a fresh fruit and vegetable snack program for elementary and middle schools up through the 8th grade, in SY 2026-27, please click the following hyperlink and fill out a request for an application by **Thursday, April 9**.

FFVP Application SY 2026-27

All sites **currently** participating in FFVP will automatically receive an application and **do not** need to request an application through the link mentioned above. For more program information, contact CANS, or visit the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program webpage. FFVP is a snack program for elementary and middle schools up through the 8th grade. This is different than the DoD Fresh FFAVORS, where fresh fruit and vegetables orders are placed using **Food Distribution Program entitlement**.

Field Trip Quick Facts

All lunches that are claimed for reimbursement must meet the daily meal pattern requirements. Students must have access to all five required food components. If students self-select field trip lunches in the cafeteria line just prior to leaving for a field trip, offer versus serve may be implemented. Meals must be counted at the point of service, the place at which students receive the meal. Schools may have a teacher check off names on a list as each student receives a meal. This list must then be returned to food service so the meals can be entered into the meal counting system and properly recorded for claiming. Another option for schools is for students to select a bag lunch at the cafeteria and enter their PIN before leaving on the field trip. Counts of bag lunches sent or returned or field trip attendance counts may not be used as a meal count. For guidance on keeping "bag" lunches safe, check out this USDA resource by clicking [here](#).

FSMC Renewal Packages for SY26-27

School year 2026-2027 renewal packages for schools who contract with Food Service Management Companies have been sent out via email. If your school has an FSMC contract pending renewal and you did not receive the renewal package please request one by reaching out to us at DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us.

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

May Order

Due to state offices being closed on Monday, April 6, the USDA Foods May order will open Tuesday, April 7 at 9am CT.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Reminders or Updates:

SFSP Experienced Sponsor Training

If you are an experienced SFSP sponsor and you weren't able to attend the online training, you can still attend the training. The training is available on the [DOE Professional Learning Platform](#). To fulfill the training requirement, you must watch the training video and successfully complete the associated quiz. Upon passing the quiz, a certificate of completion will be emailed to you. As a reminder, this training is required and must be completed before your SFSP application can be approved.

SFSP iCAN Applications for Program year (PY) 2025-2026 are now open! Any new sites must be added by **May 4, 2026**, and applications must be approved by **May 18, 2026**. An email was sent on March 20 with additional information and resources.

Seamless Summer Option (SSO):

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 are open in iCAN. If you need a refresher on SSO operations, you can access the training video available on our [DOE Professional Learning Platform](#).

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, May 7, 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.

Please contact DOE.SchoolLunch@state.sd.us or call (605) 773-3413 with questions.

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