

Check in with CANS

May 7, 2026, 2:30PM CT/1:30PM MT

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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](#).

Farm to Child Nutrition Reminders or Updates:

Thank you

Thank you to all who submitted applications for the Farm to School Subgrants. Applications are currently being reviewed, and awards will be announced when the review process is complete.

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

Annual Training reminder

Don't forget to complete your required [annual training](#) before the September 30 deadline. As a reminder, our Pathways to Child Nutrition Conference held in June will cover all topics to meet training requirements. Suggested staff to attend this training are the Authorized Representative, Food Service Director, Agency Contact, or any other main program personnel.

Garden in a Bucket – Spring 2026 Reminder

If your sponsor would like a *Garden in a Bucket* this spring—or needs a refill for a bucket received last spring—please complete the appropriate form. The kit allows children to plant, care for, and eventually eat a vegetable they've grown themselves. If your sponsor is interested in receiving a bucket for this spring, please complete this [form](#). If your sponsor received a bucket last spring and would like a refill, please complete this [form](#).

School Nutrition Program (SNP) Reminders or Updates:

School Year 2026–2027 iCAN Applications Now Open

The deadline for approval of SNP iCAN applications is August 14, 2026. Please do not wait until the last minute to submit your application. Remember, the August 14 deadline is for APPROVAL, not submission. Applications often need to be returned for corrections, so submitting early helps ensure you have enough time for revisions. **The iCAN SNP Agency Manual** is on the [CANS SNP webpage](#) under Application and Claim Information. We recommend that you follow the manual when filling out your application to ensure you are following the proper sequence to avoid extra or lost work. The manual is a useful tool in answering questions you may have about the application or how to answer some of the questions.

Important Reminders

- **Year-round schools:** You cannot submit claims for the new program year (July 1–June 30) until your application is fully approved.
- **Online Free & Reduced systems:** If you use an online Free & Reduced application system, you must complete the “Online F/R Application System Approval Request” form found in Download forms in iCAN.
- **Program or personnel changes:** If you have significant changes to staffing or program operations, please submit your application as early as possible.
- **Administrative Review:** If your site is scheduled for an Administrative Review in SY 2026–2027, please complete and submit your application as soon as possible. Early submission helps ensure a smooth review process and prevents potential delays.
- **Checklist items:** The templates are not currently working when you click on the paper clips. You can access the templates via the download forms at this time.

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program iCAN Application

The SY 2026-27 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program iCAN application will be available for current participants and schools that have requested an application. If you need assistance or would like to request an application, please contact Diana Webb at 605-773-6026 or James Bowers at 605-773-4900. The deadline for FFVP application approval is May 22, 2026.

Administrative Review Notification

If you are scheduled to receive an administrative review in SY26-27, you should have received an email with a document to help you prepare. Reach out to Andrea if you have any specific questions about your upcoming review. You may have noticed that you are receiving a review sooner than you expected. After COVID, we completed a review for every school over the course of 3 years. School year 2025-26 was the first year of our new review cycle, putting us back on track with a 5-year cycle. If you want to see when your school is up for review, you can check out our [review schedule](#) on our [CANS SNP webpage](#).

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.

****Upcoming Deadline** Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**

The list of eligible and near eligible sites and districts is posted on the [CANS SNP website](#) in the School Meal Requirements section. The percentages that make a district or site eligible decreased last year. Sites that have an Identified Student Percentage (ISP) of **25% or greater** are eligible for CEP. Sites that have an Identified Student Percentage (ISP) between **15% - 24.99%** are potentially eligible. If you are eligible and would like to apply, submit the [CEP Application](#) by **May 31, 2026**.

Nonprogram Food Revenue Compliance Requirements

Each year, SFAs must assess revenue from program foods (reimbursable meals) and nonprogram foods (à la carte, second entrees, adult meals, etc.) to ensure nonprogram foods cover their costs. This review is required when submitting the upcoming school year’s application. If the results show non-compliance, SFAs must take corrective action, such as transferring non-federal funds or increasing nonprogram food prices to cover the shortfall. Compliance forms are available in the [iCAN Downloads](#), and guidance for completing the Nonprogram Food Revenue Tool can be found on the [DOE Professional Learning Platform](#). Please note that compliance will be verified during an Administrative Review, and supporting documentation will be requested.

SY2026-2027 Meal Application Distribution

Schools are encouraged to distribute the information letter and meal application beginning July 1, 2026, or shortly after. Providing materials early allows families time to complete and return applications before the first day of school. Please note that information letters cannot be sent before June 30, 2026, and applications cannot be accepted or processed before July 1, 2026.

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

The 26-27 Food Distribution Calendar is posted on the USDA Food Distribution in Child Nutrition Programs webpage at the following link <https://doe.sd.gov/cans/documents/26-calendar.pdf>. There will be a limited number of printed calendars available at the Pathways Conference in June.

Please make sure your DoD Fresh/FFAVORS orders are receipted before you leave for the summer break.

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

SFSP Application Deadline

As a reminder, all applications must be approved by May 18. If your application is not approved by the deadline, you will be unable to operate SFSP this program year.

Time to Complete Your Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Application (James)

A reminder for schools participating in the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) to complete their application as soon as possible. If you need assistance with the application, please contact our office. 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, June 4, 2026 (**Tentative**)

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!