

## Check in with CANS

**August 12, 2021 2:30PM CT/1:30PM MT**

CANS Phone: (605) 773-3413

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### All Program Reminders or Updates:

- **Supply chain issues.**
  - Concerns about supply chain disruptions have been shared with CANS and nationally. Schools and agencies should please order accordingly and to have back up plans and meals ready. Plan some flexible menus that are easy to swap out if some products don't show up. Staffing shortages in truck drivers is further aggravating these issues.
  - Question to schools/sponsors - are you seeing or hearing about issues from your vendors? What plans are you putting in place to minimize this issue? Is anyone planning on using the meal pattern waiver flexibility to help with planning?
  
- **Staffing challenges.**
  - Another growing concern is filling open positions. Several schools/agencies have shared that this is becoming a larger problem and positions that are open have few, if any applicants. Suggestion to advertise through Facebook or another job-sharing site and your local work force (Dept. Of Labor) office.
  - Question to schools/sponsors - What are you experiencing? Is this a new problem – or ongoing even before COVID? Do you know why you are not getting applicants? Is your school paying a competitive wage for the area for the open positions or offering bonuses?
  
- **\*\*NEW\*\* USDA Memo SP16-2021, CACFP 14-2021** - This memo consolidates previously answered questions that are applicable to Waiver flexibilities in SY2021-22
  - Question 2 – Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loans (CACFP)
    - Can CNP operators that received the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan use CNP funds to pay back a PPP loan?
      - The PPP loan was established with the CARES Act to assist businesses with covering payroll expenses, i.e., labor costs. Only under certain circumstances may a PPP loan be forgiven.
      - If the loan is forgiven: Any CNP expenses paid for using PPP funds may not be claimed using CNP funds since they have already been paid with another federal funding source.
      - If the loan if not forgiven: CNP funds may only be used to repay allowable CNP expenses, as outlined in the FNS Instruction 796-2 Rev. 4.
      - Note that interest due to PPP loan is not an allowable expense.
  - Question 4 – A la carte in Seamless Summer Option (SSO)
    - Can schools operating SSO in SY 21-22 sell a la carte items?
      - Yes, schools may sell a la carte foods and beverages as long as they meet the smart snacks requirements. A la carte includes seconds.
  - SSO: Question 8 – Seamless Summer Option meals on non-educational days
    - If schools have a shortened school week, may schools provide meals to take home for 'off-days'?

- In SSO, schools can only provide reimbursable meals on instructional school days. Schools **cannot** provide meals on days off, when the school is not in session, or a “homework help” day that isn’t required student attendance.
  - Reminder, CACFP at-risk afterschool meals programs can offer meals when schools are not in session.
- Question 10 – SNP and SSO meals served in the classroom and the water requirement
  - Are schools required to provide potable water to students eating lunch at school when lunch is served in the classroom?
    - Yes. Schools are required to make drinking water available to students at lunch wherever meals are served on the school campus – which includes making water available in the classroom.
    - For breakfast meals in the classroom water is not required to be offered.
    - Reminders, Normal water availability rules are still in effect: water must be available at breakfast and lunch service in the cafeteria. Students are not required to take the water, and schools cannot require students to choose between water and milk.
- Question 22 – Direct Certification for free meals in SNP and SSO
  - If an LEA is not currently providing meals through the National School Lunch Program is it still required to continue direct certification activities?
    - YES, Local Education Agencies (schools) that operate SSO this SY2021-2022 are expected to meet the requirements of conducting direct certification at least 3 times per school year. This is done through matches made in the iMATCH system.
- Question 37 – Weekend meals in CACFP
  - May CACFP At-Risk sites/sponsors that did not serve weekend meals prior to COVID-19 expand to provide weekend meals with a non-congregate enrichment activity?
    - Yes, At-Risk Centers that provide care for children on the weekends during the regular school year may claim meals served on weekends. Sponsors are encouraged to tailor their program to the needs of their community, but also ensure that At-Risk requirements are still being met. For example, an enrichment activity (in-person or virtually) must still be provided on weekend days that meals are served.
- Question 48 – Meal modifications in SNP and SSO
  - Will meal pattern waivers change a program operator’s responsibility to make meal modifications for participants with disabilities?
    - No, schools operating a non-congregate meal service are still required to provide accommodations and will need to determine how individuals who require meal modifications will be identified and served.
- SSO: Question 49 & 50 – And Justice for All program nondiscrimination posters in SNP and SSO
  - Does the And Justice For All poster need to be displayed on mobile routes and classrooms?
    - And Justice for All program nondiscrimination posters must be prominently displayed to program participants in facilities running reimbursable meal programs
    - If you don’t have printed posters contact the CANS office to request posters.
    - Meals delivered from vans or buses should display the poster
    - Vehicles making door-to-door deliveries at homes do not need to display the poster
    - The poster does not need to be displayed in classrooms; it must be displayed in a prominent location in the school, for example a bulletin board in the main building entrance

- **CN Emergency Funds**
  - Payments to SNP Operators coming next or the end of August. Payments to CACFP operators coming in late August/mid-September. An email sent to each sponsor agency/school prior to the payment will be sent with details about the payment and the funds. A very small number of schools/agencies will need to sign an assurance statement prior to receiving the payment if claims were not submitted with a specified timeframe.
  - In the notification email and in the assurance statement there is an opportunity to opt out of this funding.
  - New guidance was sent out by USDA today that will slightly modify our plans, but most schools/agencies will not notice the changes.
  
- **Waiver Forms Available on the CANS Website**
  - If your SFA/ Agency is interested in opting into any of the USDA Waivers, please visit the CANS Website, <https://doe.sd.gov/cans/index.aspx>, under the USDA Waivers, Guidance, and Information- July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022 tab for more information.

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

- **CACFP Applications:** Tentatively planning to open the applications for the new Program Year the week of August 16. All applications have to be in approved status. If you received an email about your application needing to be resubmitted for approval, please completed that as soon as possible.
  - The CACFP program year (PY) is October 1 – September 30.
  
- **\*\*NEW\*\* Reimbursement Rates-** New rates for program year 21-22 have been released from USDA and are posted on the CANS CACFP website and have been updated in iCAN. You will not be able to view them in iCAN until the new program year is opened.
  
- **Whole-Grain Rich Criteria change-** Effective October 1, 2021, the required measurement for the grains component change to ounce equivalents. The whole grain rich (WGR) requirement does not apply to the CACFP infant meal patterns for birth through 11 months.
  - USDA allows two methods for determining the servings or ounce equivalents of a creditable grain product or recipe. CACFP facilities may use either method, but remember, you must document how the crediting information was obtained.
  - **Method 1 (USDA's Exhibit A Chart)** is used for commercial grain products and may also be used for recipes that indicate the weight of the prepared (cooked) serving. This method uses the USDA's chart, [Exhibit A: Grain Requirements for Child Nutrition Programs](#), to determine the required weight (groups A-E) or volume (groups H-I) for the appropriate grain group.
  - **Method 2 (creditable grains)** is used for recipes and may also be used for commercial grain products that have a PFS stating the weight of creditable grains per serving. This method determines the grain servings for creditable grain products and recipes by calculating the total weight (grams) of creditable grains per manufacturer's serving (from the PFS) or recipe serving (from the quantities listed in the recipe). For some commercial grain products, CACFP facilities must use method 2 (instead of the USDA's Exhibit A chart) to determine the grain servings.
  
- **Reminder - CACFP Training requirements** need to completed by September 30. The Program Director needs to complete all applicable CACFP trainings on both the DOE CACFP website and SD Bright Track. The Director then needs to assign trainings to their staff that make sense based on the job duties the staff perform.
  - Please complete all required training by September 30 to avoid a seriously deficient declaration.

- **WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)** - 2021 updated WIC Approved Food Guide found here: [https://sdwic.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-Food-Guide\\_English\\_DIGITAL\\_Updated-6-9-21.pdf](https://sdwic.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-Food-Guide_English_DIGITAL_Updated-6-9-21.pdf)

## **School Nutrition Program (SNP) Reminders or Updates:**

- **Reminder - Professional Standards Annual Training and Hiring Requirements:**
  - Professional Standards Requirements Guidebook: <https://doe.sd.gov/cans/documents/Standards-SNP.pdf>
  - Every School District/SFA must have at least one Food Service Director, this is normally the lead Food Service person regardless of the title the school actually uses. For example, a head/lead cook is the Food Service Director in many schools.
  - Training Requirements:
    - Each Job Category has Annual Training Requirements
      - Directors 12 hours --
        - 8 hours of food safety training every 5 years
      - Managers 10 hours
      - All Other Staff (working 20 hours or more per 6 hours week)
      - Part-Time Staff (working less than 20 hours 4 hours per week)
      - Mid-year hires in all categories One-half of training requirement for each job (January 1, or later) category
      - Temporary and acting employees, substitutes, Any annual training requirements are at the and volunteers discretion of the State agency and may be required within 30 days of start date
    - Directors determine training topics for staff to match staff duties.
      - For example: Free and reduced-price meal applications training for program clerical staff and managers or On-the-job training using new equipment for food production staff.
  - Hiring a new Food Service Director – must meet the minimum requirements listed in Chart 3 on page 11-12. Exemptions may be allowed for schools with fewer than 500 students, contact CANS with questions.
  - See the Training and Webinars menu under the CANS-School Nutrition Programs page (<https://doe.sd.gov/cans/snp.aspx>) for CANS training PowerPoints and Webinars
- **Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) SY21-22 Update**
  - Site selection and award update, Notification emails sent on 8/6, FFVP awards and approvals being added in iCAN over the next couple weeks
    - The 1<sup>st</sup> Award (Aug & Sept) is less than last year – we may not be able to cover costs if you overspend the award
  - Complete the FFVP Quiz <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CKCNWTF>
  - FFVP Training available at 2:30PM CT on Thursday, September 9
- **\*\*NEW\*\* USDA Memo SP19-2021 FFVP SY2021-2022 Operational Q&A's**
  - Some Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program flexibilities are available with an **approved** SY21-22 SNP or SSO waiver request. An FFVP waiver for schools operating non-congregate meal service will be available soon.
  - FFVP food can be served as a non-congregate FFVP offering and multiple FFVP foods can be served during meal deliver or other non-congregate meal service.
  - If the school is providing home delivery, the FFVP offering can be provided to all children within the household.

- Normally, FFVP foods may only be provided to enrolled children at elementary schools currently approved to operate the program. However, if the elementary school is operating an SSO open site, FFVP foods may be provided to any children attending the site.
  - Parent/guardian pick-up or alternate FFVP operational sites are **not allowed** this school year.
- **\*\*NEW\*\* USDA Memo SP18-2021 Community Eligibility Provision Operations during School Year 2021-2022: Questions and Answers**
    - Schools are still required to notify CANS of CEP status even if the school operates SSO.
    - SY21-22 counts as a year in the four-year CEP cycle. The year cannot be skipped to lengthen the four-year cycle.
- **Meal Pattern Waiver – 1% Flavored Milk and A la Carte**
    - SNP and SSO schools requesting to implement a meal pattern waiver to allow flavored 1% milk in school year 21-22 can request that waiver at any time. The waiver request form can be found on the CANS website.
    - We want to remind schools that even though this flexibility is allowed for reimbursable meals served, **it is not extended to milks served a la carte or as smart snacks**. The waiver does not change these regulations. This means that only fat free flavored milk can be **sold** on the school campus during the school day.
- **\*\*NEW\*\* SY21-22 School Nutrition Program Reimbursement Rates:**
    - Rates: <https://doe.sd.gov/cans/documents/2122-SNPrates.pdf>
    - Use these rates to calculate your SY21-22 adult meal prices.
- **Buy American**
    - On August 4, FNS published the Request for Information: Buy American in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program to gather feedback from stakeholders on:
      - How the Buy American provision and guidance are currently implemented,
      - Changes FNS should make to current regulations, and
      - Guidance and feedback on how FNS can better support local operators as they strive to purchase domestic foods and food products.
    - Submit your responses at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/08/04/2021-16479/request-for-information-buy-american-in-the-national-school-lunch-program-and-school-breakfast>.
    - Responses are due by November 2, 2021.
- **\*\*Training Opportunity\*\* USDA Webinar for School Food Authorities Administering the School Meals Programs: Procurement Strategies for School Year 2021-2022**
    - Friday, August 13, 3:00 – 4:00 PM Eastern Time. 2:00-3:00 PM Central Time, 1:00-2:00 Mountain Time
    - Description: As SFAs work towards reopening for school year (SY) 2021-2022, some school meal operators are concerned about possible challenges in purchasing and receiving food through their normal channels. For SY 2021-2022, USDA has provided school meal program flexibilities, waivers, and training resources to help States and SFAs navigate supply chain issues and provide nutritious school meals that children need to learn, grow, and be healthy. States and SFAs are playing an important role in facilitating communication about supply chain issues and providing technical assistance to school meal operators. Join us for a webinar to discuss this important topic.

- Accessibility: This webinar will have closed captioning available during the presentation. If another type of tool is needed to participate in this webinar, please email [TeamNutrition@usda.gov](mailto:TeamNutrition@usda.gov) by August 11, 2021 for assistance.
- **Registration link:** <https://tinyurl.com/3yhyx9sr>
- Resources: Visit the Team Nutrition web site ([fns.usda.gov/tn/planning-dynamic-school-environment](https://fns.usda.gov/tn/planning-dynamic-school-environment)) for informational resources about meal service flexibilities and procurement strategies for the 2021-2022 School Year. For more resources to assist schools as they reopen, visit Team Nutrition's Back-to-School Support Kit at: [fns.usda.gov/tn/back-school](https://fns.usda.gov/tn/back-school)
- **\*\*Training Opportunity\*\* USDA Webinar for Planning for a Dynamic School Environment: Guidance for Meal Service Flexibilities for SY 2021-2022**
  - DATE: Thursday, August 26, 2021
  - TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 PM Eastern Time, 1:00-2:00 PM Central Time, 12:00-1:00 PM Mountain Time
  - Description: While many schools will return to their regular cafeteria meal service this year, some may continue with socially distant meal service models, such as grab-and-go meals or meals in the classroom. Some schools will provide a virtual learning option for students who are not ready to return to in-person learning this fall, for example, due to an increased risk of severe illness and/or special healthcare needs. To support schools in planning for a dynamic school environment, USDA has issued a set of nationwide waivers for School Year 2021-2022. This webinar will help State agencies and local program operators learn more about the available flexibilities and discuss scenarios for implementing waivers for the upcoming school year.
  - **Webinar Access Information:**
    - <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1602344488?pwd=SUZ5bWlyUW0reUNtd3hqM3NpTHhDZz09;>  
Passcode: 482970
      - Or Telephone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):  
US: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666 or +1 551 285 1373 or +1 669 216 1590;  
Webinar ID: 160 234 4488; Passcode: 482970

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

- **Reminder-Overage, Shortages, and Damages (OS&D) reports** need to be completed in iCAN within 5 days of your USDA Foods Delivery. If you do not report missing product within the 5 days, your school district will be charged for product you did not receive.
- **Reminder—DoD Fresh/FFAVORS deliveries need to be receipted in the DoD Fresh/FFAVORS site within 2 days of your DoD delivery.** All requests added to DoD Fresh/FFAVORS is 75% of your school districts total request. The remaining 25% will be added as long as your district is spending their DoD entitlement.
- There was an increase in entitlement due to the per meal rate increasing to .3975. Schools can spend 105% of their entitlement. If your school is not utilizing their entitlement, entitlement will be swept and distributed to schools that are spending.

### **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Reminders or Updates:**

- REMINDERS
  - Please make sure to update the meal service times under your iCAN site application if you make any changes. Please also update the end date of your site application if you happen to close a site earlier than planned.

- Offsite meal request forms need to be submitted for field trips before the field trip takes place. The form is uploaded on our SFSP website: <https://doe.sd.gov/cans/sfsp.aspx> Documents tab.
- We will accept submissions for the Turnip the Beet award until **September 3, 2021**.
- Please check out the Turnip the Beet Facts Sheet and Nomination Form:
  - [TUB facts 2021](#)
  - [TUB Nomination Form 2021](#)

### Upcoming Trainings or Calls: (Andrea)

- **Check in with CANS** (normally) occur on the first Thursday of each month at 2:30pm CT/1:30 pm MT.
  - A monthly opportunity to hear from all the Child Nutrition programs (CACFP, SNP, SFSP). Each check in will start with a report from CANS with hot topics, new guidance or program clarifications, and reminders of upcoming dates. There is also time during each call for you to ask questions.
  - Next check in date: Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 CST/1:30 MT
  -
- **Crash Course with CANS** is a 30-minute live webinar, occurs about every other Thursday at 2:30pm CT/1:30 pm MT.
  - Next Crash Course Date: August 19
  - **Topic: Meal Counting & Claiming in SSO**, come listen in on the modified meal count requirements for the Seamless Summer Option.

#### **\*For School Nutrition Programs Only**

**Professional Standards Annual Training Requirement Reminder:** Any learning or training you receive about any aspect of the School Nutrition Programs can be counted as training time towards the professional standards annual training requirement.

Please retain documentation to show what topics were trained. For example, agenda, topics, handbook, certificate, etc. And record training on a Tracking Tool – we suggest using the [SD Tracker Tool](#) posted on the CANS SNP website.

**This Conference call was 60 minutes long and can credit for 60 minutes of training.**

Learning Topics discussed during this call were:

- 3000 Administration: 3200 Program Management - 60 minutes