

Check in with CANS

August 20, 2026, 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:

CANS Staffing Updates

- Ellie Noyes – email: Ellie.Noyes@state.sd.us – phone: 605-773-7119
- Jaden Gooder – email: Jaden.Gooder@state.sd.us – phone: 605-773-4736

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! If you need access to iCAN, please complete the [iCAN User ID Request](#) and email to doe.icanhelp@state.sd.us.

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. If you need access to iMATCH, please contact us!

Pathways Survey- Coming Soon!

We're planning for our annual Pathways to Child Nutrition Success Conference in 2027, and we'd love your input! We want to make sure the sessions and topics are valuable and relevant to you! Your feedback will help us create a training experience that meets your needs and provides information you can take back and use in your program.

Farm to Child Nutrition Reminders or Updates:

[Farm to School Crunch Off](#)

The crunch off begins September 14 and concludes October 31. Be watching your snail mail for a postcard encouraging you to bite or crunch on a local food item.

1:1 Farm to School Coaching

We are looking for schools who are interested in 1:1 coaching support to start or enhance your farm to school program. If you're looking for guidance on pricing and budgeting for local purchases, need practical, school ready solutions that fit your workflow, strategies for working with limited prep time or staff capacity, or need assistance finding local producers, please reach out to me in the next couple of weeks at janelle.peterson@state.sd.us We still have a few spots open and would love to work with your school.

Farm to School Grant Awardees

A new cohort of farm to school grants was just awarded. Congratulations to these school districts:

- Huron School District \$15,000
- Leola School District \$13,956.26
- Sioux Falls School District \$10,390
- Viborg-Hurley School District \$10,290

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

Annual Training Requirements for PY2025-2026

Annual trainings for this program year must be completed by September 30 to avoid being declared Seriously Deficient. If you have questions regarding the training, you can reference the [CACFP Annual Training FAQs](#) on our website.

PY26-27 iCAN Applications

The iCAN applications for the 2026–2027 program year will open soon. To prepare for the new program year, 2025-2026 CACFP applications must be in an approved status. If your application is not in an approved status, please make the updates needed and submit for approval or reach out to CANS as soon as possible.

School Nutrition Program (SNP) Reminders or Updates:

Register Today!

CANS is hosting an in-person **School Meals 101: Essential Training for School Nutrition Professionals** in Pierre on October 21-23, 2026. This 2½-day interactive training is designed for new or newer (3 years or less in a lead or supervisory role) child nutrition professionals. Participants will gain a comprehensive introduction to the USDA School Breakfast and National School Lunch Programs, including program requirements, best practices, and essential school nutrition topics. This session is designed to provide the knowledge and practical guidance needed to build confidence and support success in their role.

Register here: [School Meals 101: Essential Training for New Child Nutrition Professionals](#)

Net Cash Resources

All non-public schools must fill out their annual Financial Statements for SY25-26 and return to SD DOE Grants Management to stacey.booth@state.sd.us by **August 28**. You can find a copy of the [Financial Statement](#) on the [CANS SNP Webpage](#) under Application and Claim Information. If you have any questions, please call Stacey Booth at 605-773-3456.

iCAN Application Reminder

iCAN applications were due on August 14. If your application is not currently approved that means it is late and you are at risk of missing claim deadlines. Please get your application submitted for approval as soon as possible. If you need assistance, please reach out to our office.

[House Bill \(HB\) 1082](#) - Reduced Price Meals

As of July 1, 2026, public schools can no longer charge students who qualify for reduced-price meals. Beginning in School Year 2026-2027, the Department of Education will reimburse public schools for the cost of these meals that would typically be paid by households, \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch. All districts will continue to receive the Federal reimbursement for all reduced-price meals served. Parent notification packets should show \$0.00 for reduced price lunch and breakfast. All counting and claiming practices will remain the same. Meals will still be counted and claimed by eligibility, free, reduced and paid. The only difference is that you will **not** charge your families the reduced price. To help

sponsors implement these changes, a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [HB 1082 presentation](#) and are available on the CANS website.

Buy American

SFAs are required to purchase, to the maximum extent practicable, domestic commodities or products. Non-domestic foods may only be purchased if the product is on the [Federal Acquisitions Regulations \(FAR\) Non-Available Articles List](#) or is unavailable in sufficient quantity or quality in the U.S., or if competitive bids show U.S. products are significantly more expensive. SFAs must maintain documentation to support these exceptions unless the item is on the FAR list. CANS provides a [Buy American Justification Form](#) for SFAs.

In SY 2026-2027, non-domestic food purchases cannot exceed 10% of total commercial food expenditures. This includes items on the FAR list. The USDA offers a [webinar](#) on the new regulations and also teaches SFAs how to use the [Buy American exceptions tracker](#).

For SY 2026-27, SFAs unable to meet the threshold for non-domestic food purchases may request temporary relief by submitting a [waiver](#) to their state agency while working toward compliance with Buy American requirements. If you submitted a waiver last year and anticipate needing one again this year, a new SY 2026–27 waiver is required.

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Annual Requirement

At the start of the school year, SFAs must review their HACCP-based Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) with all staff. Each SOP must be signed and dated to verify they have been reviewed and updated as needed to meet current practices and requirements. These procedures are a required part of your USDA-required food safety program and will likely be checked during kitchen inspections. SFAs may use the [SOP templates linked here](#) but must tailor them to align with their specific procedures and current operations.

Signage Requirements

All signage should be clearly visible and placed at or near the start of the serving line.

- **Reimbursable Meal:** SFAs must display clear cafeteria signage showing each day's planned reimbursable meals. For schools or grade levels using Offer Versus Serve (OVS), the signage must specify the minimum required selections for a reimbursable meal. Be sure to check out the CANS [lunch](#) and [breakfast](#) posters on our website.
- **Kitchen Inspection Report:** Schools in the lunch and breakfast programs must receive two inspections each year, display the most recent inspection report in a clearly visible location, and provide a copy to the public upon request.
- **And Justice for All Poster:** The 11" x 17" "And Justice for All" poster, which contains the full non-discrimination statement, must be prominently displayed in a location where meals are served and clearly visible to all program participants. Contact the CANS office if you need a poster mailed to your school. Photocopies of the posters are not allowed.

Civil Rights Training

All staff and volunteers involved in School Nutrition Programs must complete and document Civil Rights training each program year, including those involved in eligibility, meal service, meal counting/cashiering, and program oversight. New employees must complete training before performing in Program duties. The [Civil Rights PowerPoint training](#) is located in the [DOE Professional Learning Platform](#).

When to Charge the Adult Meal Price

The adult meal price must be charged for meals that are not eligible to be claimed for federal reimbursement. The adult meal price applies to meals served to:

- School staff
- Visiting adults, parents, volunteers, or guests
- Visiting students from another district
- Non-school-aged children
- Students purchasing a second full meal
- Students who decline a reimbursable meal (charge adult meal price or each item a la carte)

To determine the minimum adult meal prices for your district, use the USDA School Nutrition Programs [reimbursement rates](#) and [CANS Memo #223-1](#). The 2026–27 reimbursement rates are effective July 1, 2026–June 30, 2027, and can be found in iCAN or on the CANS SNP webpage under Application and Claim Information.

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

2026-2027 Food Distribution Calendar

Unsure of important USDA Food deadlines? The [2026-2027 Food Distribution Calendar](#) is now available to support your planning needs. It provides detailed information on all scheduled food order openings and closings, along with additional key dates. This calendar is designed to help you stay informed and manage your orders efficiently.

DoD Fresh/FFAVORS

USDA has recently updated the DoD Fresh/FFAVORS website URL, resulting in technical difficulties when accessing the site. If you have previously bookmarked the [FFAVORS](#) page, please update your browser bookmark accordingly.

Please be advised that schools are required to receipt their DoD Fresh orders in FFAVORS within two business days.

September Delivery Reminder

September deliveries will commence on Monday, September 7. Despite the Labor Day closure for many schools, the trucking company must include that day to complete all deliveries for the week.

Strawberry Cup Shortage

There is currently a shortage of strawberries due to unexpected crop issues caused by adverse weather. As a result, vendors have been unable to submit bids. At this time, we are unsure whether strawberry cups will be available for the 2026–2027 school year.

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

Thank you for a great summer!

We'd like to thank all those who contributed and played a role in ensuring that children in our communities received nourishing meals! Please complete this short [survey](#) by September 3, 2026. By completing this survey, you are providing important information that will assist with plans for next summer.

Upcoming Trainings or Calls:

Check in with CANS Zoom Calls

These calls occur on the first Thursday of each month at 2:30 p.m. CT / 1:30 p.m. MT.

- You can register for the [Check in with CANS Zoom webinars](#). We are utilizing a different format this year, so you can register in advance for the calls, you will receive automated email reminders and automatic calendar invites by registering. The calls will still take place via Zoom.
 - The next call will be Thursday, September 3, 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!