

School Nutrition Update

February 8, 2021



In this Issue:

Program Operations Information

- Submit FC1-A and Financial Reports
- Review the 2020-21 SFSP AR Training
- Remember to Submit the Second Review of Applications Report
- Have Questions to be Answered During the Wednesday Webinars?
- Complete Meal Counts Survey Daily

School Nutrition Spotlight

- Watch Story on Burke County Bus Drivers and School Nutrition Teaming Up to Deliver Meals
- Enter Sweepstakes to Recognize K-12 School Nutrition Workers
- Submit a School Nutrition Spotlight

Grants

- Apply for Fuel Up to Play 60 Funds - 3/10-4/28

Continuing Education

- Participate in Virtual Mississippi Farm to School Conference - 2/9-10
- Enhance Customer Experience, Merchandising, and Food Presentation with ICN Webinar - 2/11
- Register for the 2021 N.C. Child Hunger Leaders Conference - 2/17-18
- Access Virtual Training Resources

Program Operations Information

Submit FC1-A and Financial Reports

The December 2020 FC1-A Report is due on March 1, 2021 and should be submitted in the School Nutrition Technology System under the Financial Report option under the Application tab. The Semi-annual Report for Charters, Non-Public and Residential Child Care Institutions is also due on March 1. The Semi-annual Report was provided to the School Food Authorities (SFAs) by the Zone consultants on February 5. For any questions, please reach out to your Zone teams.

Review the 2020-21 SFSP AR Training

The N.C. Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI), School Nutrition Services presented a webinar training on Thursday, February 4, to guide School Food Authorities (SFAs) on this year's schedule through the online Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Administrative Review (AR) process and required documentation. The webinar is required for SFSP sponsors on the review schedule, but all are welcome to view the webinar. The webinar recording has been posted to the Downloads folder of the School Nutrition Technology System. If you have any questions, please contact Victoria Homick, victoria.homick@dpi.nc.gov.

Remember to Submit the Second Review of Applications Report

All School Food Authorities (SFAs) processing Free and Reduced-Price School Meal Household Applications are required to conduct a Second Review of Applications. If your district or school is 100% Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), you are not required to complete this report (FNS-874).

The required reporting period spans from the start date of processing the Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Household Applications in the 2020-21 School Year through October 31, 2020. However, the SFA must continue to document any discrepancies on the North Carolina tool, *Documentation of Change as a result of Second Review of Applications*, for the entire school year.

Should you have questions on completing the forms, please contact your Zone Team or Jacquelyn McGowan, Compliance Specialist.

Form:	Due Date:	Submit to:
FNS-874 Local Education Agency Second Review of Applications Report Template	Friday, February 19, 2021	Please email the completed form to Jacquelyn McGowan at: Jacquelyn.mcgowan@dpi.nc.gov
Documentation of Change as a result of Independent/Second Review of Applications	N/A - Provide Upon Request by State Agency	Maintain on file in the SFA.

Have Questions to be Answered During the Wednesday Webinars?

Please submit any questions you have for the Wednesday Briefing for School Food Authorities (SFAs) via the [online form](#). Answer the first two questions and then enter your questions one question per box. If you have more than ten questions, please click on the link to the form and submit your additional questions.

Complete Meal Counts Survey Daily

North Carolina remains in a state of emergency related to COVID-19. As such, the N.C. Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) must report daily meal counts to the N.C. Emergency Operations Center. Please use the survey [link](#) to submit meal count data daily by 6 pm. If you have questions or issues submitting the data, please reach out to [Janet Johnson](#).

School Nutrition Spotlight

Watch Story on Burke County Bus Drivers and School Nutrition Teaming Up to Deliver Meals

Students in Burke County have been in some form of virtual learning since March of last year. Meal pick-up sites were set up but not all families were able to pick up meals for their children. Starting this year, the district came up with a plan to pack meals and hand deliver them to students' homes. Each student gets five meals, and they are delivered once a week on Wednesday. School Nutrition prepares and packs the meals. Bus drivers have teamed up to cover all routes. For roads which the buses cannot go down, the meals are packed up in SUV's and driven down driveways to homes. Parents sign up online to receive meals for their children ahead of time. Watch the Spectrum News story about the initiative [here](#).



February 8-12 is School Bus Driver Appreciation Week. Share your appreciation with your local School Transportation professionals for their collaboration with our School Nutrition teams to ensure children have access to safe, nutritious meals during school closures and virtual or hybrid learning.

Enter Sweepstakes to Recognize K-12 School Nutrition Workers

Land O'Lakes is sponsoring a sweepstakes from February 1-12, 2021 that shines a spotlight on hardworking School Nutrition employees. The public will be asked to nominate their school and share photos or videos of appreciation (optional) through their nomination, and 10 schools will be chosen at random to receive 25,000 Cool School Café® points. After filling out the form, nominators are encouraged to share a message on social media thanking their local School Nutrition teams, using #LunchIsStillServed. [Learn more](#).

Submit a School Nutrition Spotlight

We love lifting up our #NCSchoolNutritionHeroes! If you know of a North Carolina School Nutrition team or professional that has received an award, honor or other recognition or should be spotlighted, please share for an upcoming School Nutrition Spotlight. Please send details to Tracey Bates, tracey.bates@dpi.nc.gov.

Grants

Apply for Fuel Up to Play 60 Funds – 3/10-4/28

Looking for funding to improve healthy eating and physical activity opportunities at your school? The application period for Fuel Up to Play 60 funds opens March 10 and closes April 28, 2021. Up to \$4,000 per year is available to qualified K-12 schools enrolled in Fuel Up to Play 60 to jump-start healthy changes. To qualify for funding, schools must enroll in Fuel Up to Play 60, have a registered Program Advisor, and participate in the National School Lunch Program. [Learn more and apply.](#)



Continuing Education

Participate in Virtual Mississippi Farm to School Conference - 2/9-10

Plan to participate in the 2021 Virtual Mississippi Farm to Cafeteria Conference February 9 and 10. The annual conference brings current and future farm to school practitioners together from across the state and region to share, learn, and help grow the farm to school movement. This year's keynote speaker is Betti Wiggins, one of the foremost authorities on School Nutrition and food service management. Food service directors, farmers, school administration, teachers, students, and community advocates are encouraged to attend. [Register here.](#)

Enhance Customer Experience, Merchandising, and Food Presentation with ICN Webinar - 2/11, 3 pm ET

Join the Institute for Child Nutrition on February 12, 3-6:30 pm ET, for a virtual lesson on customer experience, merchandising and food presentation. The primary mission of School Nutrition Programs is to serve the student customer and to make certain that School Nutrition is an important part of the school team. This lesson provides important methods and management tools that will support the school organization in achieving a nutritionally sound program that meets customer expectations. [Register here.](#)

Register for the 2021 NC Child Hunger Leaders Conference - 2/17-18

The N.C. Child Hunger Leaders Conference is an annual day of celebration and inspiration for everyone in our state interested in making sure kids have access to healthy food. The 2021 conference will be presented by the Carolina Hunger Initiative. This year, the conference is free and online. Sessions span over two days, February 17 and 18. Invite your supervisors, managers, and other team members to pop in for hour sessions that are of interest or when they have time. [Learn more and register here.](#)

Access Virtual Training Opportunities

The Institute for Child Nutrition (ICN) has compiled [resources to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus](#). Online food safety/HACCP training is available on the NCDPI, School Nutrition [website](#) and the ICN [website](#). Additional continuing education resources are available on the School Nutrition [website](#) from NCDPI, ICN, the School Nutrition Association and other agencies and organizations. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics offers [COVID-19 professional resources](#) for Registered Dietitians/Nutritionists (RDs) and Dietetic Technicians, Registered (DTRs), and [continuing professional education resources](#).

Questions

If you have any questions regarding these updates, please reach out to your regional consultants. Contact information for your Zone teams can be found [here](#).

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: [How to File a Complaint](#), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.