

School Nutrition Update

August 22-26, 2022



In this Issue:

Program Operations Information

- Note 2022-23 Reimbursement Rates
- Register - Webinar: Supply Chain Assistance Funds – How to Claim

School Nutrition Spotlight

- Loving School Lunch!
- Share your School and Summer Meal Photos
- Send in Articles for the School Nutrition Update E-letter

Job Opportunity

- Work with Davidson County Schools – Finance Specialist Position

Nutrition Education & Promotion

- Color Your Lunch Tray!
- Share How School Lunch is Made and How Students Can Help
- Submit #NCFarmtoSummer Stories!
- Turnip the Beet for Summer 2022!

Continuing Education

- Supporting a Healthy Team: Strategies to Promote Staff Wellness, Motivation & Retention – 8/23, 2 pm ET
- Exploring Best Practices & Tips to Prepare Healthy School Meals – 8/25, 3 pm ET

- Seeding Success Series - Building a Culture of Farm to School – Recorded USDA Webinar
- Access Virtual Training Resources

Program Operations Information

Note 2022-23 Reimbursement Rates

On July 26, 2022, the Federal Register released their notification to announce annual adjustments to the national average payments, the amount of money the Federal Government provides States for breakfasts, lunches, and afterschool snacks served to children participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. The reimbursement rates can be found on the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, Office of School Nutrition website, under [Information & Resources by Subject](#). This notice also includes temporary increases authorized by the Keep Kids Fed Act which expire on June 30, 2023. If you have any questions, please contact your Zone Consultant.

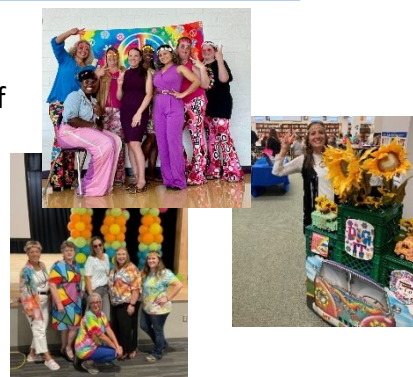
Register – Webinar: Supply Chain Assistance Funds – How to Claim

The NCDPI, Office of School Nutrition staff will review in a webinar on September 7, 2:30-3:30 pm ET, how eligible School Food Authorities (SFAs) can claim the second allocation of Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) funds. In the webinar, we will provide a guided walk-through of how to claim the SCA funds in the School Nutrition Technology System (SNTS) and answer any questions. This webinar is intended for School Nutrition Administrators and School Nutrition Program Claim Reimbursement staff. [Register to participate.](#)

School Nutrition Spotlight

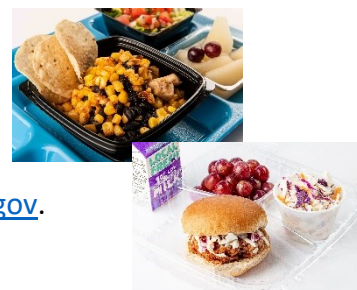
Loving School Lunch!

School Nutrition Programs across the state have been gearing up for the start of school with back-to-school trainings. Many of the training workshops have utilized the 2022 National School Lunch Week theme - Peace, Love and School Lunch. We love seeing all the groovy photos of our #NCSchoolNutritionHeroes across the state. Please tag @NCSchoolMeals with your posts on social media. Let us know how you are offering back-to-school training for staff and how you are planning to celebrate #NSLW2022.



Share your School and Summer Meal Photos

The NCDPI, School Nutrition Division wants to highlight the appealing, wholesome, quality meals our School and Summer Nutrition Programs across the state offer to students each day. Share your beautiful photos of serving lines and complete school breakfast or school lunch meals with us. Please send those to Tracey Bates, NCDPI School Nutrition Promotion Specialist, at tracey.bates@dpi.nc.gov. Make sure to include the school and district info so we can aim to credit the source.



Send in Articles for the School Nutrition Update E-letter

If you have a resource, grant, job opportunity, continuing education event, award announcement, shout out or other news item for the SN Update, please send a brief article (250 words or less) to Tracey Bates, tracey.bates@dpi.nc.gov, by 12 pm on the Wednesday prior to when the SN Update is sent out the following week. Include "SN Update" in the email subject line.

Job Opportunity

Work with Davidson County Schools – Finance Specialist Position

Davidson County Schools is hiring a School Nutrition Finance Specialist. An associate or bachelor's degree in business or a related field and five (5) years experience in business/accounting/accounts payable or a related field is preferred. [Learn more and apply.](#)

Nutrition Education & Promotion

Color Your Lunch Tray!

Help students make healthy meal decisions this year and download the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Team Nutrition poster, "[Color Your Lunch Tray!](#)". Designed to educate students who are selecting a reimbursable lunch, it was created under the Offer vs. Serve (OVS), a provision of the National School Lunch Program. You can find [OVS resources](#) and other helpful materials on the USDA website.



Share How School Lunch is Made and How Students Can Help

Inspired by questions USDA receives from students about school lunch, Team Nutrition's newest publication "How School Lunch is Made and How You Can Help" is part of Team Nutrition's Fueling My Healthy Life collection for middle school classrooms. This 12-page article is connected to eighth grade educational standards and provides information to students about what's in a school meal, who decides what's on the menu, and how students can influence what's offered. The [resource](#) is available from the USDA website. Print copies are coming soon!



Submit #NCFarmtoSummer Stories!

We can't wait to hear about your farm to summer activities. 1) Serving locally grown foods in meals and/or snacks, 2) Teaching or learning about local food, agriculture and/or nutrition, 3) Posting or sharing about farm to summer activities, and 4) Signing up for the [#NCCrunch](#) for Farm to School Month. Complete the [#NCFarmtoSummerChallenge sign-up](#). Use #NCFarmtoSummer and tag @Ray4NCKids and @NCSchoolMeals with your social media posts. Share your #NCFarmtoSummer success story with Tracey Bates, NCDPI School Nutrition Promotion Specialist, tracey.bates@dpi.nc.gov.



Turnip the Beet for Summer 2022!

The Turnip the Beet Award, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors who work hard to offer high quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious. All Summer Meal Programs sponsors in good standing, including Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors and National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option (SSO) sponsors, may be eligible for a Turnip the Beet Award. Sponsors may self-nominate or be nominated by another party. Participation in the #NCFarmtoSummer initiative can help with Turnip the Beet award applications. The Turnip the Beet nomination form must be completed and submitted along with a detailed one-month menu. No more than 5 supporting documents can be submitted. Submit 2022 Turnip the Beet Award applications to NCDPI at summernutritionprogram@dpi.nc.gov by 5 pm on September 16. More details and the nomination form are available from the USDA [website](#).



TURNIP THE BEET
with high quality summer meals!

Continuing Education

Supporting a Healthy Team: Strategies to Promote Staff Wellness, Motivation & Retention - 8/23, 2 pm ET

Supporting your staff is essential for success at both the individual and team levels. We all wish for our staff to be valued, healthy, productive, happy, and less stressed. In this webinar, No Kid Hungry will discuss the following questions: How do you promote wellness among your staff? How do you promote staff appreciation, retention, and good morale? How do you build trust and maintain communication to increase the strength of your team? This webinar will feature a panel of four speakers who are taking care of their staff through team building, wellness activities, recognition opportunities, financial incentives and more. Join No Kid Hungry to learn more about what you can do to build morale, keep your staff healthy and retain valuable staff members. [Learn more and register](#).

Exploring Best Practices & Tips to Prepare Healthy School Meals – 8/25, 3 pm ET

Healthy, creative meals in schools are a key aspect of successful program participation among students. The way food is presented, along with its texture, taste, and smell, can influence your students' perception of their dining experience. It also says a lot about the quality of the food served. Join the Institute for Child Nutrition (ICN) for a webinar on August 25 at 3 pm ET to hear operators share successful strategies and tips for preparing creative, nutritious meals for kids. [Learn more and register](#).

Seeding Success Series - Building a Culture of Farm to School – Recorded USDA Webinar

This USDA webinar highlights the importance of local partnership, collaboration, and networking with other farm to school programs to ensure program success. USDA FY 2021 Farm to School Implementation Grant awardee, Healthy Flavors Arkansas, shared their project and how they have successfully created a farm to school culture. [Watch here](#).

Access Virtual Training Opportunities

The Institute of 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 (RDNs) 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.

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- (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) (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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