

# School Nutrition Update

February 22, 2021



## *In this Issue:*

### **Program Operations Information**

- Share P-EBT Info with Families
- Remember to Submit FC1-A and Financial Reports
- Have Questions to be Answered During the Wednesday Webinars?
- Complete Meal Counts Survey Daily

### **School Nutrition Spotlight**

- Rock and Roll with Davidson County School Nutrition and Transportation Teams
- Celebrate 1 Million Meals with Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools
- Shoutout to N.C. Summer Nutrition Programs
- Celebrate #NCChildHungerLeaders
- Submit a School Nutrition Spotlight

### **Nutrition Education & Promotion**

- Celebrate National Nutrition Month®

### **Continuing Education**

- Plan to Participate in the Healthy People 2030 Webinar - 2/25, 12 pm ET
- Register for ICN February STAR Webinar - 2/25, 3 pm ET
- Join SNA for a Success with Partners Webinar - 2/25, 3 pm ET
- LEAD to Succeed
- Access Virtual Training Resources

---

## Program Operations Information

---

### ***Share P-EBT Info with Families***

Thousands of North Carolina families with school-aged children will soon begin receiving additional assistance to purchase food through the Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program, or P-EBT. P-EBT helps families purchase food for children whose access to free or reduced-priced meals at school has been impacted by COVID-19, because students are learning virtually, outside of brick-and-mortar schools. P-EBT assistance is added to an electronic benefits transfer card. The P-EBT card can be used to purchase food items at EBT authorized retailers, including most major grocery stores. The P-EBT program, authorized by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is a collaboration between the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services and the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

Families do not need to apply for P-EBT. Eligibility criteria are based on USDA requirements. A school-aged child is eligible if their school participates in the National School Lunch Program and the student is eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals during the 2020-21 school year. Also, the student's school must have been closed or have been operating with reduced attendance for at least five consecutive days during the 2020-21 school year as a result of COVID-19. The student must also be learning in a fully remote (all virtual) and or in a hybrid (combination of virtual and in-person) learning mode during the month of eligibility.

A P-EBT [toolkit](#), available on the NCDHHS website, includes eligibility information, a fact sheet, FAQs and more. Please share P-EBT information with families.

---

### ***Remember to 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](#).

---

### ***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

---

### **Rock and Roll with Davidson County School Nutrition and Transportation Teams**

Davidson County Schools served its 2 millionth emergency meal this past week! The entire school district banded together in the spring to make sure children had access to meals, with bus delivery and drive-thru pick-up. With August back-to-school, they kept buses running to deliver meals. When the district moved to Plan B, School Nutrition operated drive-thrus, sent meals home for remote days, and had children come through cafeteria lines. Central office staff, bus drivers, principals, and of course all of the amazing School Nutrition staff in the office and out in the schools made it possible during the hardest circumstances anyone has faced in a century. Thank you to our #NCSchoolNutritionHeroes from Davidson County Schools!



---

### **Celebrate 1 Million Meals with Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools**

The Food for Students program operated by Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools served their 1 millionth meal this week. The program has grown since last March to offer free meals for children at 48 distribution sites. Thank you to all the School Nutrition, Transportation and other Education staff, N.C. National Guard, community partners and volunteers who collaborated and utilized innovative strategies to feed kids in the Chapel Hill and Carrboro area! Enjoy a great [John News shoutout](#) to the Food for Students team and read a [ChapelBoro.com article](#) about the initiative.



---

### **Shoutout to N.C. Summer Nutrition Programs**

In 2020, 187 N.C. Summer Nutrition Program sponsors across 2,624 sites served 27,966,843 meals over June, July and August. The number of meals served during the summer of 2020 is six times the number of summer meals served in 2019. While this is amazing work, we are only reaching 30 percent of children in need in North Carolina. Help us reach even more children with #NCSummerMeals in 2021!



---

### **Celebrate #NCChildHungerLeaders**

More than 900 practitioners participated over the two days of the 10<sup>th</sup> N.C. Child Hunger Leaders Conference to celebrate and learn innovative strategies from our #NCChildHungerLeaders. Fabulous resources from the conference - session recordings, pivot talks, culinary demos and more - are now available on the Carolina Hunger Initiative website, <https://www.carolinahungerinitiative.org/conference>.



---

### **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](mailto:tracey.bates@dpi.nc.gov).

---

# Nutrition Education & Promotion

---

## ***Celebrate National Nutrition Month®***

National Nutrition Month® is an annual campaign created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During the month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits. Find tip sheets, handouts, games, activities, PowerPoint presentations, social media resources and more to help you celebrate on the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics [website](#).



---

## Continuing Education

---

### ***Plan to Participate in the Healthy People 2030 Webinar - 2/25, 12 pm ET***

Join a discussion about Healthy People 2030 (and its Leading Health Indicators (LHIs) on February 25 at 12 pm ET! The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (HHS/ODPHP) and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) will provide an overview of Healthy People 2030 and the newly released LHIs and discuss the importance of implementing Healthy People 2030 at the local level. [Learn more and register](#).

---

### ***Register for ICN February STAR Webinar - 2/25, 3 pm ET***

Join the Institute for Child Nutrition (ICN) on February 25 at 3 pm ET for a STAR Webinar on Best Practices and Resources for Leading a Heart-Healthy Lifestyle. The American Heart Association will be highlighting resources available that aid School Nutrition Programs in the promotion of healthy eating. Nutrition tips to help keep a strong heart and make healthy choices will also be shared. [Learn more and register](#).

---

### ***Join SNA for a Success with Partners Webinar - 2/25, 3 pm ET***

Join the School Nutrition Association (SNA) on February 25 at 3 pm ET to learn how School Nutrition Programs can play a larger part in the educational day and be included in school planning processes through school community partnerships. The success of our School Nutrition departments relies on the people who work, operate and plan together in schools. Listen in to this panel to learn about successful partnerships between School Nutrition staff and administrative staff that have benefited School Nutrition Programs and most importantly, benefited students. [Learn more and register](#).

---

## ***LEAD to Succeed***

The School Nutrition Foundation (SNF) has launched the LEAD to Succeed™ Initiative, a professional development program made possible through a \$2 million grant from the USDA, Food & Nutrition Service. SNF developed the training program working with a team from Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business and other partners. The initiative addresses critical workforce development needs, helping school nutrition professionals Learn, Educate, Advance and Develop. Online trainings and resources will be available to all School Nutrition professionals free of charge through the SNA Training Zone. [Learn more](#).



## ***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 (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. 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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.