

# School Nutrition Update

July 20, 2020



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# Program Operations Information

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## ***Governor Announces Schools to Open under Plan B***

Governor Cooper announced July 14 that North Carolina schools will open for the 2020-21 school year with both in-person and remote learning, under a modified Plan B. As part of this, schools can provide a remote learning option for any child who chooses it. Local education agencies can choose to open under stricter precautions with Plan C, all remote learning. View Governor Cooper's [briefing](#). All N.C. Emergency Management briefings are available [online](#).

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## ***Opening Public Schools Guidance Updated***

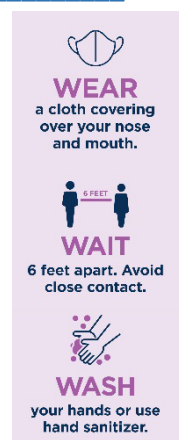
The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCHHDS) has updated the #StrongSchoolsNC K-12 Public Health Toolkit for modified Plan B with guidance for social distancing, face coverings, cleaning and more. In addition, there is a Reference Guide for Suspected, Presumptive and Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 along and Infection Control and PPE Guidance. Please review and utilize this the NCDHHS [Guidance](#).



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## ***Resources for the 3 W's: Wear, Wait and Wash***

Programs that serve children and teens can take important steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. NCDHHS has issued interim [guidance for day camps and programs serving children and teens](#) and for [overnight camps](#). Utilizing NCDHHS guidance, training should be provided to all staff. Instructions should be communicated to children as well as families regarding expectations for safe practices to prevent the spread of COVID-19. NCDHHS has free resources to help with education regarding social distancing best practices, the [3 W's: Wear, Wait and Wash](#). In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has [resources](#) to assist in communicating with children regarding the Coronavirus.



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## ***Steps to Take if a Break in Meal Service May Occur***

If your Summer Nutrition Program meal service may take a break or cease, immediately email Dr. Lynn Harvey, [Lynn.Harvey@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Lynn.Harvey@dpi.nc.gov). NCDPI must notify the N.C. Emergency Operations Center of any break or discontinuation of meal service. In addition, per protocol, reach out to your local Emergency Management leadership. Together brainstorm and reach out to community partners to identify strategies to continue meal service for children. Also, work with vendors to explore alternative menu items/quantities for meal service.

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## ***Transportation Funds***

SL 2020-80 Section 2.2 (a) established a TRANSPORTATION ALLOTMENT FUNDS SECTION 2.2.(a) For the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the N.C. Department of Public Instruction may withhold up to twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) from the transportation allotment and instead allocate those funds, as necessary, for transportation expenses related to emergency School Nutrition services provided between July 1, 2020 and the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year by public school units participating in the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, or Summer Food Service Program. This section becomes effective July 1, 2020. Guidance regarding transportation funds will be forthcoming.



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## ***HACCP Plan Updates***

The Commercial HACCP Plan and monitoring logs for all other plans have been updated and are posted in the HACCP/Food Safety section of the NCDPI, School Nutrition [website](#). The Warehouse, Transport, and Homestyle HACCP Plans will be posted shortly.

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## ***Submit Your Data Daily***

Please submit your daily counts for sites and meals by 3 pm via the [Non-Congregate Meal Service - Data Collection survey](#). The link to the survey is also available on the home page of the NCDPI, School Nutrition [website](#). If you encounter issues with submitting this data by the deadline, please contact Janet Johnson, [janet.williamsjohnson@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:janet.williamsjohnson@dpi.nc.gov).

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# Summer Nutrition

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## ***Site Application Reminders***

Ensure Site Applications are updated to accurately reflect the sites' meal service. Weekly monitoring and updating of the sites' ADP are essential. Make sure that the Site Applications are prior approved in order to receive reimbursement. Include all locations as sites, including grab and go schools and community sites, parked buses/vehicles as Area-eligible locations and picked up meals to deliver to specific locations (20 or more meals). If you have questions, contact your [Zone team](#) or [Summer Nutrition Program consultant](#).

## ***Ecosure Inspections Restarted***

Health inspections by Ecosure specialists have restarted. Health inspections are required by USDA regulations. Instruct principals, School Nutrition staff and other staff at meal sites not to deny access to the Ecosure health specialists. Make sure that you follow the days and times for meal service in your site applications. Update site applications as needed to reflect current meal service.

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# Farm to School/Summer

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## ***N.C. Farm to Summer Challenge***

We enjoyed celebrating N.C. Farm to Summer Week with you July 12-18. Let's continue recognizing Farm to Summer all summer long! Participating in the first North Carolina Farm to Summer Challenge is a great way to get involved, and it's not too late to join. To participate, register and complete these four tasks between July 12 and August 14:

1. **Serve** - Incorporate at least one locally sourced food item into your Summer Nutrition Program menu.
2. **Teach** - Offer a farm to summer educational activity.
3. **Post** - Share your Farm to Summer activities on social media or your website using #NCFarmtoSummer. Tag @Ray4NCKids and @NCSchoolMeals.
4. **Crunch** - [Sign up](#) to participate in the #NCCrunch2020 in recognition of Farm to School Month in October.



Challengers who complete all four tasks will be recognized at the 2020 SummerPaloozas! We would love to highlight how you are incorporating Farm to Summer into your programs. For more information on Farm to Summer and resources, check out the [N.C. Farm to Summer Toolkit](#). Please contact McCamy Holloway at [mccamy.holloway@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:mccamy.holloway@dpi.nc.gov) with any questions or comments.

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# Nutrition Education & Promotion

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## ***Fruit and Vegetable Fact Sheets***

Thirty fruit and vegetable fact sheets have been developed by NCDPI, with school and community partners, on produce that is grown in North Carolina and served through School Nutrition Programs. The fact sheets are designed to help educators, School Nutrition professionals and families in encouraging children to eat and enjoy more fruits and vegetables. The two-page fact sheets feature a full color photo of each fruit or vegetable and provide information divided into the following sections: GROW (type, origin and growing tips), CHOOSE (varieties, availability and strategies for selection), STORE (information on where and how to store), USE (how to



wash and prepare), TEACH (facts, trivia and educational activities), EAT (nutritional benefits), and FIND (resources and links). The free fact sheets are available from the NCDPI, School Nutrition [website](#).

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## Continuing Education

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### ***Available Virtual Training Opportunities from ICN, SNA and NCDPI***

A variety of professional development resources are available for free online. The Institute for Child Nutrition (ICN) has compiled videos, fact sheets, posters and other [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](#). Document all continuing education in which your staff participates.

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## Grants

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A variety of grants are available to assist with COVID-19 response. See below for more info:

- [Action for Healthy Kids – Emergency Meal Distribution Equipment Grants](#)
- [Assistance for Church Food Programming Affected by COVID-19](#) (Please reach out to Michelle Osborne at [michelle@rafiusa.org](mailto:michelle@rafiusa.org) or 919-704-6920 with any questions.)
- [Farm to School COVID-19 Related Funding](#)
- [Grant Station List of COVID-19 Related Funding for Nonprofits](#)
- The Dairy Alliance Mini-Grants - Interested School Nutrition directors should contact Health and Wellness Program Manager Cami Lewis at [clewis@thedairyalliance.org](mailto:clewis@thedairyalliance.org) or 678-822-2868.

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## Questions

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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](#). Contact information for the Summer Nutrition Program Regional Consultants can be found [here](#).

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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) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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