

We only use cookies that are necessary for this site to function to provide you with the best experience. The controller of this site may choose to place supplementary cookies to support additional functionality such as support analytics, and has an obligation to disclose these cookies. [Learn more in our Cookie Statement](#)

Subscribe to updates from Indiana Department of Education



INDIANA
DEPARTMENT of
EDUCATION

Email Address e.g.
name@example.com

Share Bulletin

School Nutrition Programs Newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education



Indiana Department of Education sent this bulletin at 09/11/2024 04:00 PM EDT



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

School Nutrition Programs

This weekly newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is dedicated to providing education, training, and technical assistance opportunities to school nutrition professionals, helping to ensure seamless operations for those participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Child Nutrition Programs. If you are the food service contact for your school or facility, please be certain that everyone on your team has access to this important information.

Tip of the Week

After School Snack Program (ASSP) Reminders

- Operators of the ASSP must [conduct a program review](#) at each site once within the first four weeks of operation.
- The [ASSP meal pattern](#) must be followed for all snacks served.
- Students must take both offered items.
- [Smart Snacks and ASSP](#) are not the same. Not all items that are Smart Snack compliant will meet the ASSP meal pattern and not all items that can be served on ASSP are Smart Snack compliant.

Important Updates

Serving School Meals to Preschoolers

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has updated Team Nutrition's Serving School Meals to Preschoolers training worksheet to be consistent with the Final Rule, "[Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#)." This four-page worksheet assists National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) operators in planning menus that meet the preschool meal pattern. Download [here](#).

Food Buying Guide (FBG) Update

New foods are now available in the FBG for Child Nutrition Programs Interactive Web-based Tool and Mobile App. New yield data is available for the following, which are identified as traditional Indigenous foods in Tribal communities: huckleberries, bison, canned steelhead trout, halibut, walleye, white perch, and white fish. Explore the [FBG](#) today!

Updated Crediting Tip Sheets

The Crediting in the Child Nutrition Programs Tip Sheet series has been revised to reflect the changes with the Final Rule, Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The Crediting in the Child Nutrition Programs tip sheet series consists of seven tip sheets covering the five meal components: fruits, vegetables, meats/meat alternates, fluid milk, and grains (three separate tip sheets). The revised versions introduce the menu-planning flexibilities beginning July 1, 2024 and changes that will be implemented in the coming school years in a quick-reference format. Find the entire tip sheet series [here](#).

Farm to School Highlight: North Daviess Community Schools

North Daviess Community Schools is procuring a number of local products for their school cafeteria. In August, they enjoyed a delicious meal with Indiana heirloom tomatoes and Fisher Farms beef. To highlight local options being served, email [Sophie Lindley](mailto:sophie.lindley@ndcs.k12.in.us).

Food Day and Apple Crunch Toolkits

There is still time to sign up for Food Day [here](#) and Apple Crunch [here](#) and receive the toolkits. Let the Farm to School team know if you need help processing pumpkins or apples, taking photos, cleaning up after the event, or anything else. We would love to help. Reach out to [Sophie Lindley](mailto:sophie.lindley@ndcs.k12.in.us) to schedule a visit.

Indiana Grown for Schools All-Network Meeting

Join the Indiana Grown for Schools Network's All-Network Meeting on Thursday, September 26, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. ET to help shape the future of Farm to School in Indiana. During this session we will discuss successes, challenges, and priorities for increasing local foods, fostering school gardens, and integrating nutrition and agriculture education in classrooms in your community and statewide. Learn more and register [here](#).

Login.gov Account Required to Access Department of Defense Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System (DoD FFAVORS)

All DoD FFAVORS external users must have a Login.gov account to access FFAVORS before Monday, September 30, per USDA. Access the [Login.gov website](https://login.gov) and click the "Sign in with LOGIN.GOV" button. If you need assistance, contact the [FFAVORS help desk](#).

DoD Fresh Produce Orders and Receipting

SFAs placing orders must receipt in FFAVORS within five days of receiving DoD orders.

Program Year (PY) 2025 for USDA Foods is Now Open

Schools can now access the FDP link in CNPweb in order to recertify, review their 2024-2025 annual pre-order forecast survey and place Direct Delivery USDA Foods orders.

Recertifying for the Food Distribution Program and USDA Foods

Login to [CNPweb](#) and go to FDP.

- Read the update and message screen, then scroll to the bottom and click "continue."
- Click "Program Year 2025" in the upper right corner.
- Go to the applications tab and then click the "Edit" link.
- Verify and/or update the address and contact information.
- Ensure that a 24-hour access phone number (such as a mobile phone number) is entered.
- Scroll down to box 29 in the verification section and place a checkmark in the box.
- Click the submit button and your account should be pending approval.
- IDOE will approve your account if all requirements are met.

If your account has the following message, "You do not currently have a NSLP information sheet for Program Year 2025 in a Pending Approval or Approved status. You must complete the enrollment process for the National School Lunch Program before your FDP information sheet can be Certified and Approved," your school still has tasks that need to be completed under SNP.

Placing USDA Foods Orders

Direct delivered (Brown Box USDA Foods orders must be placed in [CNPweb](#). Click [here](#) for the link to the direct delivered USDA Foods ordering instructions. USDA Foods for processing must be ordered via a distributor and must be monitored and managed through the [K12 Foodservice](#) and [Processorlink](#) commodity tracking systems. DoD Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program orders must be placed and funds managed and monitored in [FFAVORS](#).

USDA Foods Recipes

Use your USDA sliced or diced pears for [baked pears with oatmeal crisp topping](#). This recipe must be adjusted to meet serving sizes and meal patterns.



Training and Webinar Opportunities

Fall Culinary Skills for School Meals Webinar Series

Chef Cathy Powers and her team will be offering free, interactive culinary education for all K-12 school nutrition professionals. Virtual training is provided from 2 to 3 p.m. ET, featuring live chef demonstrations of practical recipes, efficient techniques and important nutritional insights. Each class earns one CEU and includes great giveaways. Click the title of the sessions below to see more details and to register.

- Thursday, September 19 - [Grab and Go Salads](#)
- Thursday, September 26 - [Indiana Food Day/Farm to School](#)
- Thursday, October 10 - [Knife Skills - Basics](#)
- Thursday, October 17 - [Knife Skills - Cutting Vegetables](#)
- Thursday, October 24 - [Knife Skills - Cutting Fruit](#)
- Thursday, October 31 - [Cooking Whole Grains - Techniques for Hot Dishes](#)
- Thursday, November 7 - [Cooking Whole Grains - Techniques for Chilled Dishes](#)
- Thursday, November 14 - [Super Simple Sauces](#)

Did you miss any of the previous Culinary Skills for School Meals Webinars from earlier this year? Click any of the links [here](#) to view the recording.

Final Rule: Updates for Child Nutrition Programs Webinar

Learn more about USDA's Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Final Rule titled, *Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans* during a webinar discussing updates to nutrition standards, menu flexibilities, and administrative and operational changes.

Note: This will be a repeat presentation of what was presented during the Back-to-School Training on July 10, 2024.

When: Thursday, September 12, at 1 p.m. ET. Register [here](#).

Updated Registration Link for Meal Talk: Reducing Sugars in School Meals

USDA's FNS Team Nutrition initiative is hosting a webinar, **Meal Talk: Reducing Sugars in School Meals**, on Thursday, September 12, from 3 to 4 p.m. ET. The webinar will highlight strategies to reduce added sugars to meet the upcoming added sugar limits for school meals starting in school year 2025-2026. Register [here](#).

Verification Webinar Series

- Verification Methods
 - Tuesday, September 17, at 2 p.m. ET. [Register here](#).
 - Repeat Session: Tuesday, September 24, at 2 p.m. ET. [Register here](#).
 - Programs able to select their own verification method can join this session to learn about each option.
- Verification Preparation
 - Thursday, September 19, at 2 p.m. ET. [Register here](#).
 - Repeat Session: Thursday, September 26, at 2 p.m. ET. [Register here](#).

Reminders

2024 Annual Financial Report (AFR)

The 2024 Annual Financial Report (AFR) is currently under construction in CNPweb for additional updates to the report. These updates have affected previous years AFRs and will not allow a sponsor to submit an old AFR for approval. Please refrain from editing previous years' AFRs until further notice. Sponsors are still able to view previous years AFRs using the view function, but should not be edited as this will result in an error. IDOE will share additional information once the 2024 AFR is opened in CNPweb. Contact scnfinance@doe.in.gov with questions regarding the 2024 AFR.

SUN Bucks Phone Line Closed

Due to the end of the 2024 SUN Bucks Program, the call center phone line has been closed. Households can still reach out through the [SUN Bucks Help Portal](#) with questions or concerns.

As a reminder, funds are expunged 122 days after cards are initially issued to households. For issued cards that did not arrive or for households reporting an incorrect address, the issuance period is unfortunately not able to be extended.

The 2025 SUN Bucks Program will open next spring. To ensure households receive SUN Bucks cards to the correct address next year, please advertise the need for correct address information at the school-level by April 30, 2025.

Updates from Our Partners

Indiana School Nutrition Association (ISNA) 2024 Annual Conference

Register today for the 2024 ISNA Annual Conference! This year's conference will be held Wednesday, November 6, through Friday, November 8, at the Century Center in South Bend. ISNA has a great lineup of presenters and looks forward to reconnecting in person with colleagues from across the state. To view the agenda and register, visit the [ISNA conference website](#). Early bird registration ends Friday, September 20.

Strategies to Increase Attendance: School Meals and Food Security

Alliance for a Healthier Generation is hosting a panel discussion on Wednesday, September 18, at 1 p.m. ET to share how supporting students and families experiencing food insecurity can impact chronic absenteeism. Participants will explore how schools and districts can support nutrition security through school-based programs and additional food supports.

This session is a part of Healthier Generation's Thought Leadership Series, "Every Day Counts: A Holistic Approach to Increasing School Attendance."

Register for the panel session [here](#).

Upcoming Dates



Thursday, September 12, at 1 p.m. ET	Child Nutrition Programs webinar: Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans
Thursday, September 12, from 3 to 4 p.m. ET	Meal Talk webinar: Reducing Sugars in School Meals
Tuesday, September 17, at 2 p.m. ET	Verification Methods webinar
Wednesday, September 18, at 1 p.m.	Alliance for a Healthier Generation panel discussion, Strategies to Increase Attendance: School Meals and Food Security
Thursday, September 19, at 2 p.m. ET	Verification Preparation webinar
Thursday, September 19, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Grab and Go Salads
Tuesday, September 24, at 2 p.m. ET	Verification Methods webinar
Thursday, September 26, at 2 p.m. ET	Verification Preparation webinar
Thursday, September 26, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Indiana Food Day/Farm to School
Thursday, September 26, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. ET	Indiana Grown for Schools All-Network Meeting

Monday, September 30	Deadline to activate Login.gov account for DoD FFAVORS
Thursday, October 10, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Knife Skills - Basics
Thursday, October 17, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Knife Skills - Cutting Vegetables
Thursday, October 24, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Knife Skills - Cutting Fruit
Thursday, October 31, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Cooking Whole Grains - Techniques for Hot Dishes
Wednesday, November 6, through Friday, November 8	ISNA Annual Conference
Thursday, November 7, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Cooking Whole Grains - Techniques for Chilled Dishes
Thursday, November 14, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Super Simple Sauces

Additional Resources

- [School Nutrition Programs Calendar](#)
- [IDOE's Nutrition webpage](#)
- [CNPweb](#)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Department News

- **09/06/24** Third Annual Red Carpet Event Celebrates Indiana's Top Schools and Educators
- **09/04/24** Indiana Department of Education Announces Indiana Teacher of the Year Top Three Finalists

Stay Connected with Indiana Department of Education:



If you recently contacted the IDOE, [please complete this survey](#) to share your experience.

SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:
[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Unsubscribe All](#) | [Help](#)

Powered by



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Cookie Statement](#) | [Help](#)