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## School Nutrition Programs Newsletter from the Indiana Department of E

Indiana Department of Education sent this bulletin at 05/08/2024 04:00 PM EDT



Indiana Department 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

# National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Requirement: Summer Meals Advertisement

All NSLP sponsors must advertise the availability of free meals for children during the summer. Sponsors who serve open site summer meals should advertise their meal program sites. Sponsors that do not participate in summer meal service must notify families that meals may be available in the community and can provide the following site finder information to households:

- Text 'Summer Meals' or 'Verano' to 914-342-7744
- Visit the USDA Site Finder

Important Updates

#### **NSLP Equipment Grant Application Now Available**

Applications for the 2023 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant will be accepted through Friday, May 31. Instructions and application can be found <u>here</u>. Frequently asked questions can be found <u>here</u>. Contact <u>SCNFinance@doe.in.gov</u> with questions regarding this funding opportunity. Please include your sponsor number and "Equipment Grant" in the subject line.

#### School Food Service Employee of the Year

During a school assembly on Friday, May 3, Angie Jones, Food Service Manager at Avon Intermediate School West of Avon Community School Corporation, received IDOE's 2024 School Food Service Employee of the Year award. Jones received a plaque and a check for \$200 from the American Dairy Association Indiana, Inc. Amber Walters, Avon Intermediate School West's principal, nominated Jones for the award, sharing that Jones radiates positivity each day and in turn, the cafeteria at Avon Intermediate West is a positive place for students. Jones ensures that students are only served the highest quality of food each day, and takes great pride in managing a safe,



positive cafeteria and kitchen to take the best care of students, families, and staff. This is the 27th year IDOE has recognized school food service employees who contribute significantly to the health and learning capabilities of students.

Indiana SUN Bucks

#### **SUN Bucks Contact**

Please designate a SUN Bucks contact for your school/corporation. This person does not have to be the food service director, but needs to be reasonably available throughout the summer in the event that questions surrounding eligibility, enrollment, or custody arrangement situations arise. Complete contact designation form <u>here</u>.

#### Local Assistance

Please share <u>information and resources</u> regarding the basics of SUN Bucks with all school staff, including building level administration, administrative assistants, and teachers. Schools are responsible for providing individual eligibility assistance, as well as answering local questions from households and staff. Questions that cannot be answered locally, and address change requests, should be submitted on the <u>online help form</u>.

Farm to School

#### 2024 Farm to School Symposium

The agenda and registration for the Farm to School and Early Care and Education (ECE) Symposium can be found on the Indiana Grown for School's <u>event page</u>. The event will be held at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds on Tuesday, June 18, and Wednesday, June 19. Participants will learn about gardening, local procurement, and agriculture education. All teaching, food service, and school administrative staff are welcome to attend. Interested programs are encouraged to design a poster to show off their farm to school programs. Posters should be approximately 24 by 36 inches. Contact <u>Sophie Lindley</u> with any questions or if you would like to create a poster.

#### Northeast Indiana Harvest of the Month Educational Videos

The Northeast Indiana Local Food Network is creating <u>Harvest of the Month farm videos</u> to show students how different fruits and vegetables are grown and how different farms operate in northeast Indiana. These videos give students the opportunity to virtually visit both urban and rural farms, and meet a diverse group of Indiana farmers. Currently, 14 of 24 planned videos are available. This project was made possible by generous support from a USDA Farm to School grant.

USDA Foods

#### End of School Year Reminders Video

This <u>video</u> shares reminders about tasks that need to be completed before summer break. IDOE will sweep all Direct Delivery (Brown Box) USDA Foods remaining in school inventories in CNPweb as of Monday, July 1.

#### SY 2024-2025 USDA Foods Direct Delivery Warehouses

IDOE has executed new contracts with two warehouses for SY 2024-2025. Dilgard Frozen Foods will cover the counties in northeastern region and Stanz-Troyers Foodservice will cover the remaining counties in the state. Click <u>here</u> for a map and list of county and regional assignments.

#### **USDA Foods Recipes**

Use your canned sliced apples 100206 in this <u>apple and beet baked</u> <u>oatmeal recipe</u>. This recipe can be made with USDA Foods and must be adjusted to meet serving sizes and meal patterns.



Upcoming Dates

Thursday, May 9, at 2 p.m. ET	USDA's Final Rule Information Webinar for SFAs
Thursday, May 16, at 2 p.m. ET	Wellness Policies
Thursday, May 23, at 2 p.m. ET	Professional Standards (Rescheduled)
Monday, May 27	Food Education Fellowship Application Deadline

Friday, May 31	2023 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant Application Deadline
Tuesday, June 18, and Wednesday, June 19	Farm to School and ECE Symposium
Wednesday, July 10, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET	IN the Mix: Back to School Training
Tuesday, August 27	Summer EBT Final Rule Comments Extended Deadline

### Additional Resources

- School Nutrition Programs Calendar
- IDOE's Nutrition webpage
- <u>CNPweb</u>

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- 05/08/24 To Help Overcome Indiana's Literacy Crisis, Additional Training Opportunities Now
  Available for Educators
- 04/23/24 State of Indiana Launches SUN Bucks
- 04/11/24 Indiana Launches New Tools to Understand and Support Kindergarten Readiness

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