

Child Nutrition Thursday Update

In this week's Thursday Update

You can scroll through or click on a title below and you will be taken to that page.

Welcome to this week's edition of the Child Nutrition Thursday Update! The Thursday Update is your one stop to stay informed about all the updates, changes and exciting things happening in the National School Lunch Program.

Farm to School Cook-off

Prepping for your USDA Order

Supply Chain Assistance Office Hours

Summer

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Child Nutrition Training

Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Award

Shout Out!!

Farm to School Cook-off 2024



Register your team by

!!February 16, 2024!!

Only one competition!!

May 7, 2024 from 11am-2pm at
Central Maine Community College

Teams will prepare two lunch dishes,
One using local *Tofu*, the other local *Chicken*

Space is limited to 8 teams

To register your team, please complete [this form](#).

More information regarding the cook-off can be found on our [website](#).

If you have questions about the cook-off,
contact Stephanie, Katie or Michele

Stipends are available; \$100 for food - \$50 in supplies

USDA Foods

Prepping for Your Annual Order

terri.fitzgerald@maine.gov

These steps must be completed before the Annual order can be set up.

Once ALL schools complete this task the SY2025 Annual survey can be opened.

Sponsor and Delivery Location Sheets for 2025

In order to open up SY 2025 annual order **ALL** districts must have both of their sponsor applications and delivery location sheets in **approved** status. **This is a Two-step process.** Please follow these step-by-step instructions.

Once all the sheets are in approved status follow the steps below:

Go to: CNPWeb: <https://me.cnpus.com/cnp/Login> Enter in ID/password

Select: FDP- (Food Distribution Program)

Program year 2025

Locate Sponsor name by clicking on the 1st letter of your sponsor name/district Sponsor number Takes you to Sponsor Summary page.

↓ Bottom of Form

Sponsor Summary Acton Public Schools 2

Sponsor Info Activity

Applications Entitlement Surveys Allocations Inventory Orders Invoicing

Sponsor Application Sheets

	Number	Name	Revision	Status	Approval Date	Action
+	2	Acton Public Schools	2	Approved	09/14/2023	View Revise

Delivery Location Information Sheets

	Number	Name	Revision	Status	Approval Date	Action
+	3	Acton Elementary	1	Approved	09/14/2023	View Revise

↑ Top of Form

Select: Applications tab. **This is a Two-step process.**

1. Select **Sponsor Application sheets**, select edit, make all necessary updates, enter in emails, check off #45, submit. Status will go from Pending Submission to Approved status.
2. Select **Delivery location information sheets**, select edit, update all information. The next **step is crucial**. **Under storage capabilities**, make sure **dry, refrigerated, and frozen boxes are checked off**, this is where your USDA foods get delivered. If you only have one delivery application, then all 3 must be checked off. If you have several delivery locations, you may have dry and frozen items going to one school and refrigerated going to another school. Make sure they are checked off appropriately for your deliveries.
3. Any questions, please call Terri Fitzgerald at 624-6882.

There are 84 districts that have not completed their Sponsor and Delivery Location sheets.

!!!Please complete them by noon tomorrow (2/9)!!!

Alexander Public Schools	Lee Academy	RSU 72/MSAD 72
Andover Public Schools	Lincoln Academy	RSU 80/MSAD 04
Appleton Public Schools	Lincoln-Region 3	RSU 82/MSAD 12
Athens Public Schools	Lincolnvile Public Schools	RSU 84/MSAD 14
		RSU 87/MSAD 23
Baileyville Public Schools	Machias Public Schools	RSU 88/MSAD 24
Bangor Public Schools	Maine Academy of Natural Sciences	Southwest Harbor Public Schools
Beals Public Schools	Maine Central Institute	St James School
Blue Hill Public Schools	Medway Public Schools	St Thomas School
Boothbay-Boothbay Hbr CSD	Moosabec CSD	Surry Public Schools
Brunswick Public Schools	Mount Desert Public Schools	
	MSAD 76	Washington Academy
Calais Public Schools		Wesley Public Schools
Cape Elizabeth Public Schools	Pembroke Public Schools	West Bath Public Schools
Castine Public Schools	Penobscot Public Schools	Whiting Public Schools
Charlotte Public Schools	Pleasant Point	
Community Regional Charter School	Portland Public Schools	
Cutler Public Schools		
East Machias Public Schools	Rockland-Region 8	
East Millinocket Public Schools	RSU 05	
Eastport Public Schools	RSU 06/MSAD 06	
Erskine Academy	RSU 10	
Eustis Public Schools	RSU 12	
	RSU 13	
Foxcroft Academy	RSU 15/MSAD 15	
	RSU 20	
Glenn Stratton Learning Center	RSU 26	
Gorham Public Schools	RSU 31/MSAD 31	
Greenbush Public Schools	RSU 32/MSAD 32	
Greenville Public Schools	RSU 37/MSAD 37	
	RSU 44/MSAD 44	
Hancock Public Schools	RSU 55/MSAD 55	
Harmony Public Schools	RSU 58/MSAD 58	
Hope Public Schools	RSU 63/MSAD 63	
	RSU 70/MSAD 70	
Indian Township		
Jonesboro Public Schools		
Jonesport Public Schools		

Supply Chain Assistance Office Hours

Many SFAs in our state are in progress with their SCA fund review. If your SFA has not been contacted as of today, please note that Maeghan will be reaching out to you next month to request SCA fund documentation for review.

Maeghan will be holding once a week office hours for the rest of the month of February and will schedule into March if there is continued interest. SCA Open Office Hours are a casual Teams meeting space where Food Service Directors, Business Managers, or anyone else in your district who may be working with SCA funds can join to ask any SCA related questions.

If you would like to receive the link to any of the following SCA Fund Office Hours, please email maeghan.hass@maine.gov, noting which date you will be attending, and I will send you the link!

Monday February 12th 1:30pm-2:30pm
Wednesday February 21st 1:00pm-2:00pm
Monday February 26th 12:30pm-1:30pm

Summer



2024 SFSP Reimbursement Rates

	Rural or Self-Prep	All Other Types of Sites
Breakfast	2.9775	2.9225
Lunch or Supper	5.2125	5.1300
Snack	1.2350	1.2050

Site Eligibility

Below are resources to use to establish site eligibility

ED 534 - The free and reduced price data for SY 2024. If the school in the site's attendance area is over 50% free or reduced, the site could be open eligible. Free and Reduced Data.

Area Eligibility Mapper - The area eligibility mapper is another resource. Type in the site's address and if it is in a pink area, it is considered area eligible as an open site. If the census block is blue but adjacent to a pink tract, you can work with DOE to see if averaging is an option. The link to the mapper

5 Year Eligibility - As a reminder, there is a 5 year eligibility period for open sites. Work with Maine DOE Child Nutrition for more information. We always try to establish eligibility each year to extend the 5 year period.

Closed enrolled or camp sites – These sites are established based on the free/reduced status of participants enrolled in the program. In some cases, area eligibility can be used to create closed enrolled sites.

***New* conditional non-congregate sites in rural areas**– These sites offer non-congregate meals in rural areas that are not area eligible. Reimbursement is only received for children who meet free/reduced income guidelines.

Non-Congregate Meals in Rural Areas

Are you interested in operating SFSP in rural areas? Did you know that you may be eligible to provide meals to go? USDA has expanded their [rural eligibility map](#) and created a permanent rural, non-congregate meal program to ensure children who don't have access to congregate services, such as summer school or camp programming, receive meals. Please submit any questions to adriane.ackroyd@maine.gov.

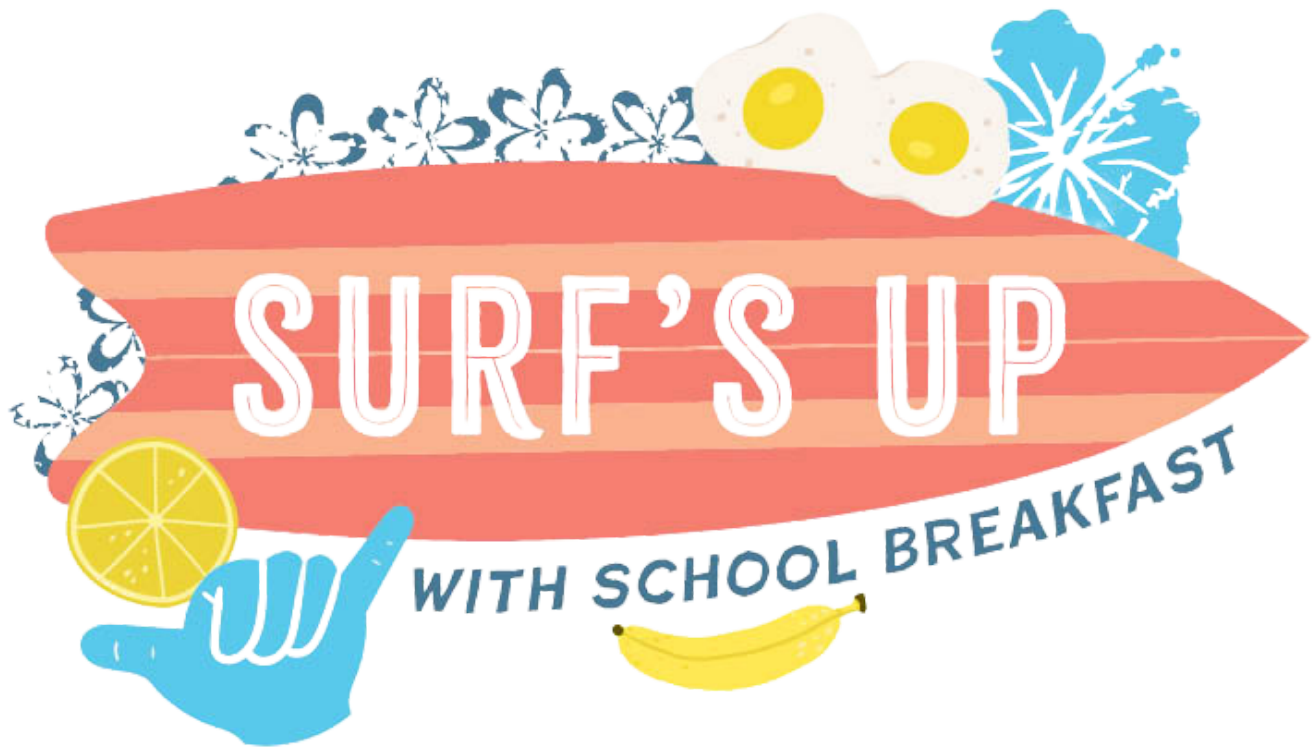
Community Eligibility Provision

USDA has updated material pertaining to the change in eligibility to participate from 40% to 25%. Our [Special Provisions](#) web page has helpful documents for Districts including a revised CEP Planning and Implementation Guideline and a Q & A document.

USDA Annual Order

Tuesday, February 13th is the **expected date** to open the SY 2025 annual order. The orders will be due on Friday, March 8, 2024, **no extensions!**

For instructions on how to place your SY2025 USDA Foods Annual Order, important things to keep in mind when placing your Annual Order and for a list of food being offered on the Annual Order, please visit the [USDA Foods](#) page of our website.



**School Breakfast week is
March 4th-8th**

National CACFP Week is March 10-16, 2024



Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

USDA has changed the qualification to participate in CEP. It has gone from 40% to 25%.

We will be offering three webinar opportunities for Districts to learn:

***How to Participate in CEP**

***What you need to do for your District or group of schools within the District to participate.**

CEP removes the need for collecting applications and completing the Verification process for 4 years.

February 26, 2024 - 1:30pm

March 5, 2024 - 10:00am

March 15, 2024 - 10:00am

A recording of the webinar will be available on our website

A bright sunburst graphic with many rays emanating from a central point, set against a blue background.

Summer

Summer Meal Options for SFAs Webinar

School Food Authorities are in a great position to feed children over the summer months when school is not in session. During this webinar, SFAs will learn about the variety of options available to provide meals to children over the summer months. Program examples include the Summer Nutrition Programs (group dining with the Summer Food Service Program and pick-up or home delivered meals in rural areas with the Summer Food Service Program), the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option and traditional National School Lunch Program over the summer months. Join DOE to learn more about these programs and make the best decision to feeding your students over the summer time.

March 7, 2024

1:30pm

Serving Up Science

Kansas State University is excited to host a second session of Serving up Science: The Path to Safe Food in Schools this June. The in-person program will take place June 24-28, 2024 at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas.

If selected, all cost incurred for travel to and from Manhattan, Kansas is the responsibility of the participant or their employer. Other program expenses, including meals and lodging are provided Monday evening through noon on Friday while participants are in Manhattan.

The nominated individuals must complete the nomination form by March 1st, 2024. Notification of acceptance to attend the program will be sent by March 11th, 2024. Please send a letter of interest to Jane.mclucas@maine.gov by **February 16, 2024** to receive the nomination form.

Apply Now for a Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Award



There are many ways to serve school meals and the [Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Awards for School Food Authorities](#) are designed to celebrate the innovative practices taking place across the country! Whether it is preparation techniques, menu planning, cultural diversity of meals, incorporation of local foods, community engagement, or nutrition education - uplift your school meal program by applying for a Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Award today. Recognition Award winners will receive national and local recognition, as well as an exclusive invitation and a travel stipend to attend one of the National Healthy Meals Summits.

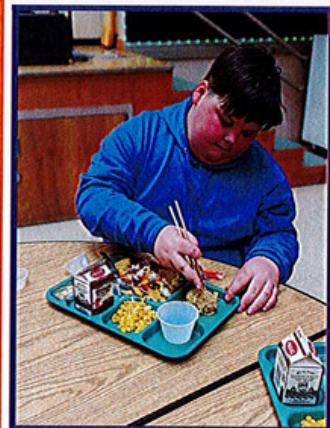
To learn more, visit healthymealsincentives.org, or tune in to the Health Meals Incentives Recognition Awards Informational Webinar on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 from 12:00pm-1:00pm. Register for the webinar [here](#).

Shout Out!!!!

Chop Stick Fun in RSU 31!!

Thank you Terry Cummings for sharing!!

ENFIELD STATION SCHOOL
HAD FUN WITH
"NATIONAL CHOP STICK DAY"



A real effort was made with lots of smiles!