

# Child Nutrition Thursday Update

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Child Nutrition Website - <https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition>

Child Nutrition List Serve Email - [child.nutrition@maillist.informe.org](mailto:child.nutrition@maillist.informe.org)

# USDA Annual Order



**The SY2026 Annual Order will be open on**  
**Monday January 20th.** The orders will be due on  
Friday February 14th, no extensions!

Please visit the [USDA Foods](#) page of our website for helpful resources for completing your Annual Order

# CACFP At Risk Afterschool Program

christina.derocher@maine.gov

The “Act To Increase Access to Nutritious Foods in Schools by Implementing an After-school Food Program for At-risk Students” is a law that requires any district with a school with 50% or more Free/Reduced Eligible students to participate in CACFP At Risk Afterschool Snack/Supper Program. The program requires an education/enrichment activity that is available to all students after school. An example could be a homework help group. If the school does not want to participate or does not have qualifying enrichment, the district must opt out after public hearing and school board vote.

The opt out form can be found here:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/DesignPageV2.aspx?origin=NeoPortalPage&subpage=design&id=q6g\\_QX0gYkubzeoajy-GTjkRg43GkTRGl8oKaTh8Y-JUNDdQWIM3RzhYSTJXRUhIUVEzUjg2UDVVSCQIQCNjPTEkJUAjdD1n](https://forms.office.com/Pages/DesignPageV2.aspx?origin=NeoPortalPage&subpage=design&id=q6g_QX0gYkubzeoajy-GTjkRg43GkTRGl8oKaTh8Y-JUNDdQWIM3RzhYSTJXRUhIUVEzUjg2UDVVSCQIQCNjPTEkJUAjdD1n)

More information regarding the CACFP At Risk Program can be found here:

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition/cacfp/atrisk>

The LD577 Report by District: The following districts Child Nutrition - CACFP At Risk After School ED534 - 1.14.2025.pdf need to participate in CACFP At Risk or opt out using the guidance from the law:

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/sites/maine.gov.doe/files/inline-files/LD%20577.pdf>

# Claim Payment Update

[jodi.truman@maine.gov](mailto:jodi.truman@maine.gov)

There was an issue with the processing of claims this month. All Sponsors that had completed their claims by January 8th, payment should be received by Friday.

As a reminder, claims must be submitted and approved by the 8th of the month. Those approved claims are then processed on the 12th of each month unless the 12th falls on the weekend or holiday, then claims are processed on the following business day. Payments follow within 1 to 2 business days for direct deposit. Reimbursement that is mailed, may take longer due to the USPS delivery schedule.

# From the USDA

FNS released two Requests for Information in December to solicit public input:

1. [Child Nutrition Programs Tribal Pilot Projects](#) (comments accepted through March 24, 2025)

2. [Grain-Based Desserts and High-Protein Yogurt Crediting in Child Nutrition Programs](#) (comments accepted through March 26, 2025)

FNS is hosting two informative Webinars for State Agencies, Local Operators, and the Public on the Zoom platform that will provide an overview of the requests for information.

Webinar: Request for Information: Tribal Pilot Projects

When: Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 3-3:45pm ET

Please register in advance: [ZOOM REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Webinar: Request for Information: Grain-Based Desserts and High-Protein Yogurt Crediting

When: Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 3-3:45pm ET

Please register in advance: [ZOOM REGISTRATION LINK](#)

FNS plans to share webinar recordings in the future for those unable to attend the live sessions.

Additional Resources:

- More information about the requests for information can be found on the FNS website: [Tribal Pilot Projects](#) and [Grain-Based Desserts and High-Protein Yogurt](#)
- Comments can be submitted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal for each via the links at the top of this message.
- For more information on submitting comments, please see [Tips-For-Submitting-Effective-Comments.pdf](#). (Please note this is a Federal Register resource and not an FNS resource.)



# 2025 Maine DOE Winter Wellness Summit

## 2025 Maine School Winter Wellness Summit

### *Nourishing the Body, Mind, and Soul*



**OPENING KEYNOTE: Leslie Bonci, MPH, RD, CSSD, LDN, FAND** is a registered dietitian, board-certified specialist in sports dietetics and is the owner of Active Eating Advice- be fit, fed, fearless- a nutrition consulting company and co-founder of Performance365- a sports nutrition consulting company. She was the sports nutrition consultant for the 2020, 2023 and 2024 Super Bowl Champion Kansas City Chiefs. Her company, Performance 365 provides sports nutrition services for universities, industry and professional sports teams. She runs a private nutrition counseling practice specializing in performance nutrition, weight management and body composition optimization, disordered eating and digestive disorders. Leslie's keynote will be Living Swell - The Why to Try for Your #healthyselfie. She will talk about controlling what we can with our eating and fitness plan with a focus on what to include, what is realistic, what is do-able and what is sustainable. Her message is that food should not provoke guilt, deprivation nor elimination but rather an enjoyable daily celebration to help us be fit, fed and fearless.



**CLOSING KEYNOTE: Stephen Sroka, Ph.D.** is an inspirational presenter who has spoken around the world talking about the importance of relationships in everyone's lives. Trusted relationships may be the most important variable for effective learning, leading and living. Stephen will share the 4C's of relationship building: Communication, Collaboration, Cultural Competency and Caring. His presentation is an educational journey, based on research and reality, and designed to pump up your life while having some fun. This motivational keynote is filled with "tips from the trenches" to help keep you, your colleagues, students, and community safe and healthy so they can learn more and live better. It is packed with cutting-edge information, practical strategies and heartfelt stories from life that will nourish your body, mind and soul. Dr. Stephen Sroka has spoken worldwide with The Power of One message, how one person can make a difference. Through life experiences he learned that he needs to talk about how you need The Power of Many, how it takes a team, to make a lasting difference.

The goal of the Winter Wellness Summit is to educate, inspire, and empower participants regarding health promotion and well-being! Participants learn about taking care of one's personal health, and how to create healthier, more supportive, and safer schools. The Summit agenda supports school personnel and students in the exploration of health promotion and health improvement to enhance well-being and academic achievement. This year's program includes...

*Educational and Inspirational Keynote Presentations on Healthy, Active Eating and the Power of Relationships*

*Plenary sessions on The Regulated Classroom and School Wellness Policy*

*Engaging Workshops on Personal Wellness Practices and Positive School Environments*

*Wellness Focused Networking Worksite Wellness Program Planning*

The Summit sessions will address the Six-Dimensions of Wellness from the National Wellness Institutes, Physical-Emotional-Mental-Social-Spiritual and Occupational Health. We'll highlight the benefits of healthy eating including the positive impact on mental health and all aspects of health!

Network with colleagues and professionals from across the state who value health promotion and wellness.

**Cost:** Standard registration after January 10th - \$200/person  
Late registration after January 24<sup>th</sup> - \$250/person  
Morning nourishment, lunch both days and dinner Thursday evening included in all registrations

Scholarships are available to support access to the 2025 Winter Wellness Summit. Individuals and/or teams representing their school districts are eligible to apply for scholarships to support participation in the 2025 Winter Wellness Summit to supplement the costs of travel, substitutes, and/or lodging. There will be \$200 and \$400 scholarships per school district based on number of attendees. See details and complete the application form on the Employee Health Promotion and Wellness website:

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/safeschools/wellness/pd> (See link above)

Accommodations are on your own, but we have secured a block of rooms at an excellent rate!

Rooms are available at The Samoset Resort for \$139 standard/garden view rooms and \$159 for partial ocean view rooms prior to taxes for Single/Double Occupancy. Please note that to be tax exempt you must bring documentation.

If folks wish to stay Friday and/or Saturday following the Summit for some extra wellness time, the Samoset will honor the conference room rate.

The Samoset Resort Booking Link for the conference is [MDE Winter Wellness Summit 2025](#). The rate is not available by calling.

*The 2025 Winter Wellness Summit, a component of the Maine Schools Health Promotion Program, a program of the Maine Department of Education*

# Child Nutrition Training

The links to register are in the training titles.

We are unable to hold virtual and in person training simultaneously.

All of our webinars are recorded and put on our website within a week of the training.

Please mark your calendars once you have registered.

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## Webinars

### Child Nutrition Updates & Reminders

January 27, 2025

1:30pm

We will review key updates and reminders and talk about the importance of inventory. There will be time at the end for Q and A.

# **ServSafe-Managers**

## **Class and Exam**

### **Bucksport High School Library**

**102 Broadway**

**Bucksport**

**Tuesday, February 18, 2025 - 9:00am**

**Wednesday, February 19, 2025 - 8:00am-approx. noon for the test**

The class is for school food service and CACFP only

Books are ordered and mail once registration has ended

Please note start times for each day

Bring photo id, pen or pencils with erasers

You must provide an email address as certificates are sent via email.

Please note testing start time on the second day

Lunch is NOT provided. Please bring a lunch.

Charge for the class is \$102

Payable by credit card, at the time of registration.

**Registration deadline - January 24, 2025**



# Shout Outs!!



Students in grades 1 - 4 at the Miles Lane School in RSU 25 were treated to Homemade Lunchables. They plan to serve these again making some with ham and cheese and turkey and cheese.

Shelley Bowden, thank you for sharing!!

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