

#### In this week's Thursday Update

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Meal Benefit Applications Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Annual Procurement Training June Claim We Want Your Feedback 2025 Maine Farm & Sea to Institution Summit End of Year Webinar

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

Child Nutrition List Serve Email - child.nutrition@maillist.informe.org

## Meal Benefit Application Materials for SY 2026

sarah.d.platt@maine.gov

We have updated our <u>website</u> with meal benefit application materials for SY 2026. There are two categories of materials:

- Materials for public schools and certain private schools that are eligible for the State reimbursement of paid and reduced-price meals and will not be charging households for reimbursable meals.
- 2. Materials for schools not eligible for Maine's "No Charge" meals and will be charging for paid and reduced-price meals.

Important: SFAs that are operating Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Special Provision 2 (non-base year) must not distribute or process the meal benefit application.

# **Community Eligibility Provision**

#### **Don't miss this opportunity to participate in CEP to the MAX!**

With cuts potentially coming to SNAP and Medicare, your DC list will most likely not be as robust as it was on April 1, 2025.

Be sure to take the time to double-check your matches before submitting. Have you checked for:

- Addresses (different names, same household)
- Nonmatching names (Mohammed, Mohammad, Muhammad)
- Missing suffix (Jr/Sr) or hyphens Jones-Smith
- Birthdates that are transposed (05/12/2019 or 05/21/2019)
- Requested and received your Head Start and Homeless lists from those program liaisons

Every single addition to the list will make a big difference and meeting that 50% threshold has multiple benefits.

Let's round the difference between paid and free meals to \$4.00 Out of 175 days the student eats at school 160 day

160 days x \$4/day is \$640 that we could be reimbursed with federal funds if the student is matched on the DC list. Think of what a difference you could make by finding matches for 5 students, and then your colleagues in 20 other districts did the same? \$64,000/year and..this data is good for 4 years and there are 214 sponsors in the state...

Let's help our schools, our communities and help secure Healthy School Meals for All! Reminders:

- Superintendents MUST email David at david.hartley@maine.gov on plan to participate in CEP.
- The deadline to submit documentation is June 30, 2025 <u>Per Federal regulations, no</u> <u>new documents will be accepted after June 30, 2025.</u>
- Master Complete Enrollment List & DC list must be submitted in EXCEL
- Documents must be uploaded into CNP Web
- David Hartley **must** be notified once documents have been uploaded.
- Superintendents' signature is now needed only at the end of the process

Any questions, contact David at <u>david.hartley@maine.gov</u> or 624-6878

#### Annual Procurement Training for School Nutrition Directors

sarah.d.platt@maine.gov

School nutrition program directors, management, and staff tasked with National School Lunch Program procurement responsibilities must complete training on Federal procurement standards annually. (<u>7CFR 210.21(h</u>)). To help you meet this requirement, a training is available on the Procurement & Buy American section of our website: <u>https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition/financial</u> This training counts towards the annual professional training requirement. As with all training, SFAs must maintain documentation and track training.



Do NOT file your June claim until your last operating day of meal service.

#### We Want Your Feedback!!

nicholas.j.labreck@maine.gov

Have you attended one of our monthly child nutrition webinars? We'd love to hear what you think! Your feedback helps us improve future sessions and ensure we're meeting your needs. Take a minute to share your thoughts here: <u>Monthly Webinars Feedback</u>

Thank you for helping us make our trainings even better!

## The 2025 Maine Farm & Sea to Institution Summit is Back!

The Maine Farm & Sea to Institution Network (MEFTI) will host its statewide Summit on October 14, 2025, at Colby College in Waterville. This daylong event brings together farmers, food producers, institutional buyers, food service professionals, educators, and advocates dedicated to cultivating the power of institutions to generate meaningful change in the Maine food system.

The Summit will feature hands-on workshops, presentations, a local food show, and networking opportunities designed to inspire collaboration and strengthen impact across the state.

#### **Request for Proposals Now Open**

MEFTI is now accepting session proposals to help shape the 2025 Summit. Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis through July 15, 2025.

Learn more about the MEFTI Summit, session guidelines, and how to submit a proposal



#### **End of Year Updates & Reminders**

June 10, 2025 1:30pm