

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

SY2026 Annual Application to Participate in the School Nutrition Program



jodi.truman@maine.gov

The annual application to participate in the School Nutrition Programs, including National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, After School Snack Program is now available In CNPWeb.

Program applications must be submitted and approved by State Agency prior to operating. Instructions are available under the “Help” tab once you are logged into CNPWeb.

As a reminder, on the “Checklist” tab, there are required documents that need to be uploaded by the Superintendent/Legal Agent to complete your application process. The required documents will be checked once you have opened your Sponsor and Site Information Sheets.

Deadline to submit your application is August 15, 2025

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) Error in CNPweb

IMPORTANT!

Please note, the FFVP balances for SY 2025 are not correct due to an error. The CNP web programmers are in the process of fixing the issue. When the issue is resolved we will notify everyone via the Thursday update.

Changes to State Local Foods Fund (LFF) Coming Soon!!

Starting in September, the State Local Foods Fund will have some changes!

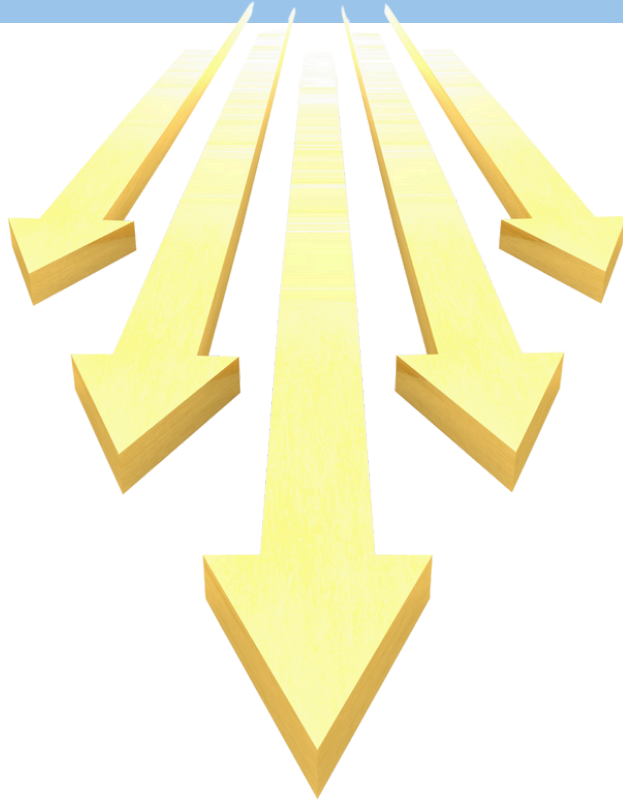
- Recent legislation has increased the reimbursement rate from 1/3 to 1/2!
 - Districts will now receive \$1 for every \$2 spent on eligible local foods!
- The maximum reimbursement amount has increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000!
 - Districts will also receive an extra \$1,000 for attending a local foods training!
- State Local Foods Fund Claims will be filed in CNP Web again with your monthly claim!
 - There will be a new claim form starting in September!

Due to these changes, there will be mandatory training video to watch before filing your September claim in October. This will be available starting in August. We will also be holding office hours, TBA in next week's Thursday Update.

These changes are effective starting for SEPTEMBER claims in October. Until then, please continue to email your Local Foods Fund claims as usual to katie.knowles@maine.gov.

If you have any questions please reach out to Katie Knowles, Farm & Sea to School Coordinator, at katie.knowles@maine.gov.

SY2025 Annual Financial Report



- The Annual Financial Report is found in CNPWeb under the Forms tab in program 2025
- The Guide to complete the report is in the Help Tab
- Report must be submitted by September 1, 2025
- Make sure all Revenue and Expenses have been reported for SY 2025 before completing the Annual Financial Report.
- Verify that the beginning and ending balance in your AFR are the same as the Business Office
- Ending balance for the 2025 school year must be a positive balance. If the balance is negative, the sponsor is required to cover the difference with a transfer of non-federal funds to the Child Nutrition accounts for a zero balance
- Question on the report can be directed to jodi.truman@maine.gov

USDA Memo

Clarification on Reimbursement for Off-Site Meal Consumption

The USDA has issued updated guidance ([SP 17-2025](#)) clarifying when meals served or consumed off site are eligible for reimbursement under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).

Key points:

- Schools may provide reimbursable meals for students who leave campus for part of the day to participate in school functions or extracurricular activities (e.g., field trips, dual credit college classes, work-study, release-time religious education) during regular meal periods.
- Meals must meet all meal pattern requirements and be prepared, stored, and transported safely to prevent spoilage or contamination.
- Meals may not be provided to all students to take home on early dismissal days since there is no scheduled meal service at those times.
- For students in work-study programs at non-participating sites, home-base schools may provide reimbursable meals to take with them. If students attend another NSLP/SBP site for work-study, schools must coordinate to ensure only one breakfast and one lunch are claimed per student per day.
- Accurate records, including eligibility documentation and meal counts by category (free, reduced-price, paid), must be maintained.

For questions, please contact the Maine DOE Child Nutrition Office.



The Center for Science in the Public Interest, in partnership with strategic communications firm Seven November, is pursuing a public relations push in support of the proposed updates to the USDA school nutrition standards. CSPI is looking for parents, caregivers, teachers, principals, nurses, pediatricians, and students in Maine, New Mexico, New York and North Dakota to be part of our media strategy and share why strong nutrition standards are important to them (or, specifically, why they care about healthier school meals). Interested individuals should fill out [this form](#).