

In this week's 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



Contact jodi.truman@maine.gov for all questions

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.

<u>Agency prior to operating.</u> 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 <u>August 15, 2025</u>

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

Open Office Hours will be provided the following dates and times:

- Monday, August 4th @ 1pm
- Tuesday, August 12th @ 10am
- Wednesday, August 20th @ 8am
- Thursday, August 28th @ 12:30pm

Please email jodi.truman@maine.gov for meeting link with the date you are requesting.

Net Off Invoice (NOI)

NOI allocations have been sent to the processors. Several Districts do not have an assigned distributor for the processor they have requested product from. If you are new to NOI or have not ordered NOI from this processor you will need to log into Processorlink or K12Foodservice to assign a distributor. If you do not you will not receive your discount.



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 ½!
 - 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!

<u>Due to these changes, there will be mandatory training video to watch</u> <u>before filing your September claim in October.</u> This will be available starting in August.

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.

Farm & Sea to School Office Hours

Virtual farm & sea to school office hours will be offered in anticipation of changes to the state Local Foods Fund (LFF) in September. These office hours are an open space to ask questions and support farm & sea to school efforts. If you'd like to join, click the date to register below!

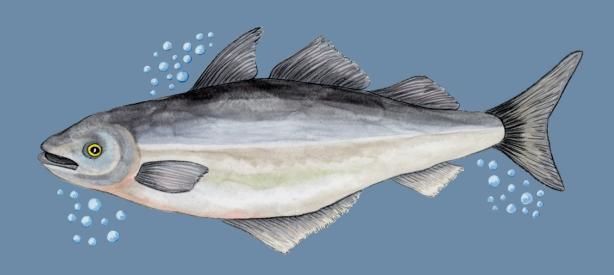
July Office Hours

<u>Wednesday July 30th, 1PM-2:30PM</u>

August Office Hours

<u>Wednesday, August 6, 1PM-2:30PM</u> <u>Wednesday, August 20, 1PM-2:30PM</u>

If these dates don't work for you but you would like direct assistance, please reach out to katie.knowles@maine.gov to schedule a one-on-one call or meeting!





2025 Maine Apple Crunch Day October 15th, 2025



What is Maine Apple Crunch Day?

October 15, 2025, marks Maine's first Apple Crunch Day! This fun event promotes fresh, local food in school cafeterias and teaches students where food comes from---and the immense benefits that coincide with sourcing our food locally.

This event is a great way for schools and communities to kick off their fall by celebrating and supporting Maine producers!

How do I participate in the Apple Crunch?

Participating can be as simple or complex as you want to make it! At noon on Wednesday, October 15th, schools and communities across the state will crunch into a local apple at the same time, creating a resounding collective CRUNCH!

Why Apples?

Apples are the top purchased local item by schools in Maine! Our state has a wonderful bounty and variety of apples to purchase.

Registration and resources coming soon! For any questions email Katie.Knowles@maine.gov