



Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

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Braddock  
Metro Center

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SUBJECT: Twenty-third Release of the Child Nutrition Database (CNDB)

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Place  
Alexandria, VA  
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TO: Regional Directors  
Special Nutrition Programs  
All Regions

State Directors  
Child Nutrition Programs  
All States

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform State and Regional Directors that the Child Nutrition Database, Release 23 (CN23) is now available to software companies that develop nutrient analysis and certification of compliance software designed for use in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program.

The Child Nutrition Database (CNDB) is the required nutrient database that must be included in the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)-approved nutrient analysis software. Only USDA-approved nutrient analysis software may be used by State agencies to conduct nutrient analyses of school lunches and breakfasts for students in grades K through 12 as part of the Administrative Review (AR).

The CNDB includes food product nutrient data collected on over 10,000 food items for the following 18 nutrients: calories, total fat, saturated fat, *trans* fat, cholesterol, sodium, carbohydrate, dietary fiber, protein, vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin D, calcium, potassium, iron, ash, total sugars, and moisture. New for this year, CN23 contains updated food product nutrient data from 20 food manufacturers. The nutrient data for 29 new or updated USDA Foods are also included. The National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference (SR) Legacy is no longer being updated, so no new or modified food items were added to the SR data in the CN23.

Data from CN23 found in USDA-approved nutrient analysis software is used by State agencies, school food authorities (SFA), and local schools to assess whether meals offered to children through the school meals programs are consistent with federal standards for calories, saturated fat, and sodium (7 CFR 210.10 (f)). Although SFAs are not required to conduct a nutrient analysis, they may do so in order to ensure they meet these federal standards.

The software approved by USDA for nutrient analysis may also be used for:

- nutrient analysis portion of certification for the additional performance-based reimbursement (certification of compliance) for lunch;

- nutrient analysis portion of certification for the additional performance-based reimbursement (certification of compliance) for breakfast; and
- nutrient analysis of recipes to ensure compliance with the Smart Snacks in School standards.

This new release (CN23) is available to companies who develop software approved by the USDA for nutrient analyses required in the school meal programs. By July 1, 2020, software companies must update their approved nutrient analysis software with CN23. FNS recommends that companies also provide a copy of their updated software to their customers by July 1, 2020. After this date, State agencies, school food authorities (SFA), and local schools should verify with their nutrient analysis software company to ensure that the software includes the most current version of the CNDB (version CN23).

The latest release of the CNDB is available at the [Team Nutrition website](#). It is also available on the CNP Approved Nutrition Software PartnerWeb Community to software companies with approved software.

Please contact the USDA Software Evaluation Team at [cnpntab@usda.gov](mailto:cnpntab@usda.gov), if you have any questions or concerns.

**Original Signed**

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Child Nutrition Programs