

The School Lunch Tray: March 2, 2022

Dear School Sponsors of Child Nutrition Programs:

The School Lunch Tray contains the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) weekly email notifications for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) school nutrition programs. This week's topics are listed below.

Action Items

- Additional Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) USDA Foods Offerings for School Year 2022-23
- USDA Foods Ordering Reminder: Deadline March 10, 2022

Need to Know

- Virtual Training Session: Ordering USDA Foods in the Web Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) System: Friday, March 4, 2022
- Updated Reimbursement Rates for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Table Talk Tomorrow: Thursday, March 3, 2022
- Resource Roundup: Schedule for Submitting Online Reimbursement Claim Data

Good to Know

- FARE's Food Allergy Webinar Series: Food Allergy Fundamentals, Part I: The Basics, Wednesday, March 9, 2022
- New Team Nutrition School Gardening Web Quiz
- Vermont Seasonal Cycle Menu Toolkit
- Reminder: Application for FoodCorps AmeriCorps Service Members: Deadline March 31, 2022

Please review and share with appropriate staff members. For previous versions of the School Lunch Tray, visit the CSDE's [School Lunch Tray and Table Talk](#) webpage.



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Action Items

Additional Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) USDA Foods Offerings for School Year 2022-23

The six items below can be ordered entitlement free through a new CCC catalog for next school year. Each item description is linked to the corresponding USDA Foods Product Information Sheet for reference. These items will be in separate catalog labeled CCC.

The catalog for these offerings will open on **Thursday, March 3, 2022**, and will close with the regular catalog on **Thursday March 10, 2022**. These products will arrive at the state warehouse in September 2022, for use next school year.

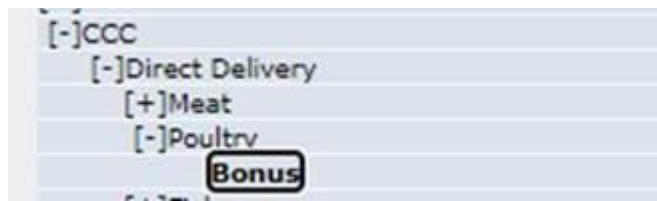
Please only order what you can use as all Recipient Agencies (RAs) are responsible for taking delivery of all items from the state warehouse. Consider these orders “requests” as most like quantities will be changed when the final orders are placed. RAs may still order these items if you have already used your full funding allotment in the first round of CCC offerings.

As always, continue to monitor these and all placed orders by running a monthly Requisition Status Report in Web Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) until all items are in purchased status. To see all orders, please leave the program box blank and you will capture NSLP, NSLP bonus, and CCC bonus orders. Also know that both school years 21-22 and 22-23 are involved, so check both years.

Material Code	Item Description
110161	Mixed Dried Fruit Package 5/5 LB
110177	Spaghetti Sauce, Low Sodium, Meatless Pouch 6/106 OZ.
110393	Pancakes, Whole Wheat, FZN, 144 COUNT
110394	Tortilla Whole Wheat, FZN, 8”, CTN 12/24
110501	Whole Grain Blend Macaroni CTN 20 LB
110723	Cranberries Dried PKG 300 1.16 OZ

Instructions:

Place these orders in the CCC catalog in WBSCM, assigning Hartford Provision Company (HPC) as the delivery location. You will see these products listed under Bonus (see snip below).



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Important notes:

- Per-case delivery fee and case minimums still apply.
- These items will be shipped to the state warehouse in September 2022, for use in the NSLP during SY 2022-2023.
- Remember to consider these orders when placing your USDA Foods orders.

USDA Foods Ordering Reminder: Deadline March 10, 2022

The USDA Foods 2023 catalog will close on March 10, 2022. [Ordering instructions](#) and resources for ordering are available on the [Food Distribution](#) webpage.

Need to Know

Virtual Training Session: Ordering USDA Foods in the Web Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) System: Friday, March 4, 2022

On Friday, March 4, 2022, from 9:00-10:00 a.m., the Connecticut Food Distribution Program will conduct a virtual training session on how to order USDA Foods in WBSCM. This is an important training for first-time users of WBSCM. RAs in need of a refresher on the ordering process may also attend.

This training will demonstrate how to create an order for Direct Delivery items and bulk pounds for further processed items. An open Q & A session will be held from 10:00-10:30 a.m. after the training. To join the training, refer to the information below.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

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Updated Reimbursement Rates for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

The SFSP reimbursement rates made available to local educational agencies participating in the Seamless Summer Option for school year (SY) 2021-22 were updated effective January 1, 2022. The current SFSP rate of reimbursement is \$4.5625 per reimbursable lunch and \$2.6050 per reimbursable breakfast. Note that the previous SFSP rate was \$4.3175 per reimbursable lunch and \$2.4625 per reimbursable breakfast. Please refer to the updated [Operational Memorandum No. OM 08-21 Rates of Reimbursements](#) (revised January 12, 2022) for more information.

Note: The CSDE's online system has been updated with these SFSP rates effective with the January 2022 claims.

Table Talk Tomorrow: Thursday, March 3, 2022

Join the CSDE's school nutrition programs staff for Table Talk on March 3, 2022, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Table Talk will review pertinent information from the School Lunch Tray newsletters for February 23 and March 3. To submit questions in advance, visit https://sdept.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5px5YKVBdQNQZDo.

Registration is not required. Please use the link below to join Table Talk on Microsoft Teams.

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Resource Roundup: Schedule for Submitting Online Reimbursement Claim Data

The CSDE's [Operational Memorandum No. 02-22](#) from November 3, 2021, outlines important information regarding the monthly claim submission process and claim due dates. Please review and share with all staff members involved with preparing and submitting claims, e.g., claim preparers and claim submitters. This memo is available on the CSDE's [Operational Memoranda for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.

Good to Know

FARE's Food Allergy Webinar Series: Food Allergy Fundamentals, Part I: The Basics, Wednesday, March 9, 2022

FARE will present the first webinar presentation in [FARE's five-part series on Food Allergy](#) as Dr. John James reviews the fundamentals of food allergies. Learn about the basics of food allergy – what they are, and what they aren't, what an allergic reaction looks like, current statistics, the natural history of food allergies, and more. This webinar will also discuss the major symptoms of food allergy, routes of exposure, and conditions like food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome (FPIES) and eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) that are impacted by food allergies.

FARE is a Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Accredited Provider with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR). CDR Credentialed Practitioners will receive one Continuing Professional Education unit (CPEU) for completion of this course.

- *Date and time:* Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- *Registration Link:* <https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/food-allergy-basics>

New Team Nutrition School Gardening Web Quiz

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative recently released the [School Gardening Quiz](#). This quiz focuses on growing fruits and vegetables in school gardens. It is the latest addition to the collection of Team Nutrition web quizzes that cover a variety of nutrition topics, available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/quizzes>. Team Nutrition will release additional quiz topics throughout 2021-22.

These 10-question quizzes can be used at trainings and other nutrition events as a fun learning activity. Upon completion of each quiz, quiz takers receive a score with a link to resources that can help expand their knowledge on the topic and build their nutrition skills. Quiz takers can also view a printable version of the questions and answers upon quiz completion.

Vermont Seasonal Cycle Menu Toolkit

The Vermont Agency of Education recently published a [Seasonal Cycle Menu Toolkit](#). This toolkit includes three six-week cycle menus for fall, winter, and spring. These cycle menus highlight local foods, include daily vegetarian options, and can be used for all age groupings. The toolkit includes standardized recipes; pre-populated production records; menu certification sheets; and guidance on menu planning, costing, production, and recipe standardization.

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Reminder: Application for FoodCorps AmeriCorps Service Members: Deadline March 31, 2022

The application deadline to apply for FoodCorps AmeriCorps Service Members is **March 31, 2022**. Interested sponsors can apply at www.foodcorps.org/apply. For more information about the day-to-day job duties, service timeline, and benefits, refer to the [FoodCorps Service Member Position Description](#). For questions or more information, contact Catherine Hallisey, CT Program Manager, Food Corp, at catherine.hallisey@foodcorps.org or 860-878-5308.



For more information, visit the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) [School Lunch Tray and Table Talk](#) webpage, or contact the [school nutrition programs staff](#) in the CSDE's Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SLT/2022/SLT_03_02_2022.pdf.

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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