

The School Lunch Tray: April 6, 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

- Operational Memorandum No. 07-22, Annual Notification Requirement for all Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or the School Breakfast Program (SBP): Due April 8, 2022: Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)
- Operational Memorandum No. 08-22: Supply Chain Assistance Funds

Need to Know

- CSDE's Information session about Supply Chain Assistance Funds, April 8, 2022
- Now Available: CSDE's List of Area Eligible Schools and List of Site Eligible Schools
- Reminder: Annual Summer Meals Training on Area Eligibility, April 7, 2022
- Reminder: USDA Foods Shredded White Cheddar Cheese, Material Code 100002
- Resource Roundup: Sign up for USDA Alerts from the Federal Register

Good to Know

- 21 Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge: April 4-24, 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

Operational Memorandum No. 07-22, Annual Notification Requirement for all Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or the School Breakfast Program (SBP): Due April 8, 2022: Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

All NSLP and SBP sponsors (regardless of participation or intent to participate in the CEP) must submit school-level CEP eligibility data to the CSDE no later than April 8, 2022. This annual notification requirement does not apply to residential child care institutions (RCCIs) or sponsors of the Special Milk Program (SMP).

The CSDE's [Operational Memorandum No. 07-22, Annual Notification Requirement for all Local Educational Agencies \(LEAs\) participating in the National School Lunch Program \(NSLP\) and/or the School Breakfast Program \(SBP\): Due April 8, 2022: Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\)](#), outlines the steps for collecting timely, school-specific data to inform the development of the 2021-22 CEP eligibility lists. This memo is available on the CSDE's [Operational Memoranda for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage. For information on how to access the CNP System to enter notification data, refer to the CSDE's document, [Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\) Data Collection Guidance for School-level Eligibility Information](#).

Operational Memorandum No. 08-22: Supply Chain Assistance Funds

To assist school districts experiencing supply chain disruptions, the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) allocated \$1 billion in relief funding to state agencies, made available through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), and authorized under the CCC Charter Act [15 U.S.C. 714]. [Operational Memorandum No. 08-22](#), outlines how the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) will distribute the Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) funds to eligible school food authorities (SFAs). The SCA funds must be used exclusively to purchase unprocessed or minimally processed domestic food products (also referred to as commodities) to help SFAs manage supply chain challenges.

All SFAs must notify the CSDE whether they accept or decline the SCA funds by submitting [Attachment 3: Supply Chain Assistance Funds Attestation Statement](#). SFAs must indicate an affirmative response to all criteria included in the Attestation Statement and submit the completed and signed Attestation Statement to the CNPermanentAgreement@ct.gov by **April 15, 2022**, to be eligible to receive SCA funds.

This memo and the attachments are also available in the "[How To](#)" section of the CSDE's [Operating Child Nutrition Programs during COVID-19 Outbreaks](#) webpage.

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Need to Know

CSDE's Information session about Supply Chain Assistance Funds, April 8, 2022

The CSDE's School Nutrition Team will present a 30-minute information session about Supply Chain Assistance funds on **Friday, April 8, 2022**, from 9:30-10:00 a.m. This session will explain the funding awarded to the CSDE to provide additional funds to assist eligible SFAs experiencing supply chain disruptions.

Microsoft Teams meeting (you do not need a Microsoft account to join)

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 860-840-2075..569285184#](#) or [860-840-2075](#)

Phone Conference ID: 569285184#

This session will be recorded and made available in the "[How To](#)" section of the CSDE's [Operating Child Nutrition Programs during COVID-19 Outbreaks](#) webpage.

Now Available: CSDE's List of Area Eligible Schools and List of Site Eligible Schools

The CSDE's [List of Area Eligible Schools](#) and [List of Site Eligible Schools](#) include schools with at least 50 percent of children eligible for free and reduced-price meals in the USDA's school nutrition programs, including the NSLP and SBP. These lists can be used to determine school eligibility to participate in the Summer Food Service Program, Seamless Summer Option of the NSLP, Afterschool Snack Program, and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. These lists are available on the CSDE's [Area Eligibility for Child Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.

Reminder: Annual Summer Meals Training on Area Eligibility, April 7, 2022

The next session of the CSDE's annual Summer Meals training covers Area Eligibility and will be held on **Thursday, April 7, 2022**, from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. SSO sponsors are invited to attend. Use the Teams link below to attend the training.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 860-840-2075..811978172#](#) United States, Hartford

Phone Conference ID: 811 978 172#

For questions about Summer Meals Training, please contact caroline.cooke@ct.gov.

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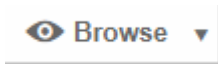
Reminder: USDA Foods Shredded White Cheddar Cheese, Material Code 100002

As a reminder, this perishable, refrigerated cheese is nearing its best-use-by date, and should be scheduled for delivery by the end of April. This cheese can be frozen and used later.

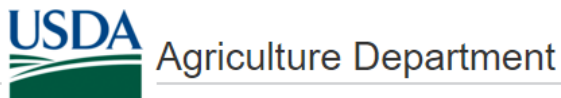
Resource Roundup: Sign up for USDA Alerts from the Federal Register

The USDA regularly publishes documents related to the Child Nutrition Programs in the [Federal Register](#), including proposed rules, final rules, and public notices. You can sign up to receive alerts whenever these USDA documents are available.

1. Go to <https://www.federalregister.gov/>.
2. Click on “**Browse**” at the top of the page then select “**Agriculture Department.**”



3. Click on the small **envelope icon** at the top right of the page.



4. Select your subscription option.

Good to Know

21 Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge: April 4-24, 2022

Food Solutions New England is hosting its eighth version of the [21 Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge](#). During every morning of the Challenge, participants receive an email “prompt” with a short reading, video, or audio file. You are encouraged to take about 10-15 minutes each day with the material in the prompt. Food Solutions New England will provide extra resources in case you want to dig further into the day’s topic. You can join this challenge at any time.



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_04_06_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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