

The School Lunch Tray: July 20, 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

- None

Need to Know

- Updated Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) Handbook and Forms for School Year 2022-23
- New Food Buying Guide Yield Data for Whole Sorghum, Pearled Sorghum, and Sorghum Flour
- Resource Roundup: USDA's Guide: Overcoming the Unpaid Meal Challenge: Proven Strategies from Our Nation's Schools

Good to Know

- Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) Webinar on Thursday, July 28, 2022: Highlighting School Success in Meeting the Transitional Nutrition Standards
- New Team Nutrition Education Materials: Fueling My Healthy Life Nutrition Education for 7th and 8th Grade Students
- Updated Team Nutrition Brochures: Food Buying Guide and Professional Standards

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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Need to Know

Updated Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) Handbook and Forms for School Year 2022-23

The updated [Afterschool Snack Program Handbook](#) for school year 2022-23 (dated July 2022) is now available. The accompanying ASP resources and forms below are also updated. Please discard any previous versions and replace with the updated July 2022 versions.

All resources are available on the [ASP](#) webpage. Forms are available in the “[Forms for the ASP](#)” section of the ASP webpage. As a reminder, the 2022-23 ASP meal pattern for grades K-12 and ASP preschool meal pattern are available in the [Meal Patterns for the ASP](#) section of the ASP webpage.

Monitoring

- [ASP Monitoring Form](#)

Production Records for the ASP

- [ASP Production Record for Ages 1-2](#)
- [ASP Production Record for Ages 3-4](#)
- [ASP Production Record for Ages 3-4 – Completed Sample](#)
- [ASP Production Record for Grades K-12](#)
- [ASP Production Record for Grades K-12 – Completed Sample](#)

Snack Count Forms for Schools that are Site/Area Eligible

- [ASP Daily Snack Count Record for Grades K-12 in Site/Area Eligible Schools](#)
- [ASP Daily Snack Count Record for Preschoolers in Site/Area Eligible Schools](#)
- [ASP Daily Snack Count and Production Record for Grades K-12 in Site/Area Eligible Schools](#)
- [ASP Daily Snack Count and Production Record for Preschoolers in Site/Area Eligible Schools](#)
- [ASP Monthly Attendance and Snack Count Record for Site/Area Eligible Schools](#)

Snack Count Forms for Schools that are not Site/Area Eligible

- [ASP Daily Attendance and Snack Count Record for Schools that are not Site/Area Eligible](#)
- [ASP Monthly Attendance and Snack Count Record for Schools that are not Site/Area Eligible](#)

New Food Buying Guide Yield Data for Whole Sorghum, Pearled Sorghum, and Sorghum Flour

New yields are now available in the [Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs Interactive Web-based \(FBG\) Tool](#). New yield data for whole sorghum, pearled sorghum, and sorghum flour have been added to the FBG. This is the first set of new data from phase two of the FBG Yield Study.

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Resource Roundup: USDA’s Guide: Overcoming the Unpaid Meal Challenge: Proven Strategies from Our Nation’s Schools

The USDA’s [Overcoming the Unpaid Meal Challenge: Proven Strategies from Our Nation’s Schools](#) is a best practice guide designed to support state and local stakeholders working to address the issue of unpaid meal charges. Throughout the guide, superintendents, principals, school food service professionals, and others share their own challenges and successes addressing unpaid meal charges. As a reminder, additional resources on unpaid meal charges are available in the [Unpaid Meal Charges](#) section of the CSDE’s Financial Management for School Nutrition Programs webpage.

Good to Know

Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) Webinar on Thursday, July 28, 2022: Highlighting School Success in Meeting the Transitional Nutrition Standards

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) new rule on Transitional Nutrition Standards for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium was effective July 1, 2022. This webinar will highlight the school nutrition programs that are meeting the nutrition requirements to continuously serve nutritious school meals. Join to hear how operators tailored strategies and best practices to meet the new transitional standards.

- *Date and time:* Thursday, July 28, 2022, from 3:00-4:00 p.m.
 - *SNA Key areas:* 1 Nutrition
 - *USDA Professional Standard Code:* 1110 – USDA Nutrition Requirements
 - *Learning objective:* Attendees will identify strategies and best practices that assist in meeting the new transitional nutrition standards.
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New Team Nutrition Education Materials: Fueling My Healthy Life Nutrition Education for 7th and 8th Grade Students

Team Nutrition recently announced the release of new nutrition education materials. These materials are designed to raise awareness of the importance of healthy food choices, ultimately leading to positive behavior change. Educators can pick and choose from a variety of learning activities to create a fun lesson with easy-to-access digital materials including a lesson plan, two text articles for students to read, student assessments, a short video, and a digital interactive to test your knowledge. All materials are available at fns.usda.gov/tn/fueling-my-healthy-life.

- **7th Grade: What's Your Healthy Eating Style?**

Students will explore their eating patterns and ways to choose nutritious foods and drinks that are low in added sugars, sodium, and saturated fat. Students will then use their learning from these activities to create a healthier eating pattern.

- **8th Grade: The Truth About Snacking and Sodium**

Students will explore how to choose healthy meal and snack options, and how sodium affects the human body. Students will then be able to use their learning from these activities to identify foods that are high in sodium and choose healthy alternatives to decrease their overall sodium intake.

Updated Team Nutrition Brochures: Food Buying Guide and Professional Standards

The USDA's Team Nutrition recently updated the three brochures below.

- The [Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs \(FBG\)](#) brochure describes the purpose of the FBG and the various features, such as the Recipe Analysis Workbook, Exhibit A Grains Tools, and FBG Calculator, included in the Web-based Tool and Mobile App. The FBG is the go-to source of food yield information for all Child Nutrition Programs and is used by Program operators as well as food industry. The brochure also provides links to FBG training resources such as recorded webinars, training videos, and the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) training modules.
- The [Professional Standards for School Nutrition Professionals](#) brochure provides an overview of the Professional Standards and describes the annual training requirements and hiring standards for school nutrition professionals. The brochure also lists the various resources available to help school nutrition professionals meet the Professional Standards requirements. These include the *Guide to Professional Standards for School Nutrition Programs*, the Professional Standards Training Database, and the Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool.
- The [Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool \(PSTTT\)](#) brochure provides information on the PSTTT, a free, web-based tool available for school nutrition professionals to record their annual training hours. Learn about the user-friendly and time saving features of the PSTTT such as:
 - recording trainings for all employees at once;
 - auto-populating training information into training records;
 - generating and printing summary reports; and
 - printing certificates of completion.

For more information about these technical assistance tools and related resources visit the Team Nutrition webpages below.

- [Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs](#)
 - [Professional Standards for School Nutrition Programs](#)
 - [Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool \(PSTTT\)](#)
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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](#) at the Connecticut State Department of Education, School Health, Nutrition and Family Services, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SLT/2022/SLT_07_20_2022.pdf.

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Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:** (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:** program.intake@usda.gov

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