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

• Final Reminder: Verification and the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) 742 Verification Summary Report Due December 15, 2022

Need to Know

- Updated Nonprogram Pricing Worksheets for Adult Meals for School Year 2022-23
- USDA Foods Direct Delivery Update on Orange Juice Cups
- Now Available: CSDE's Menu Planning Checklists for Lunch for Grades K-12 for School Year 2022-23
- Updated CSDE Resource: Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (December 2022)
- Updated CSDE Resources: Grain Ounce Equivalents for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP, Grain Ounce Equivalents for the NSLP and SBP Preschool Meal Patterns, and Grains/Breads Servings for Grades K-12 in the ASP
- Retirement of Team Nutrition Network
- Resource Roundup: Monitoring the Order Status of USDA Foods

Good to Know

- USDA Newsletters for Child Nutrition Programs
- Team Nutrition's Whole Grains Web Quiz

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.



Action Items

Final Reminder: Verification and the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) 742 Verification Summary Report Due December 15, 2022

FNS 742 Verification Summary Report is due December 15, 2022. For guidance on completing this report, refer to the CSDE's <u>Completing the Verification Collection Report (FNS 742)</u> and the information in the <u>School Lunch Tray from November 9, 2022</u>. Please note that **all** sponsors of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) must complete this report, including sponsors that were not required to conduct the verification process. This includes, Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) schools and districts, private schools, magnet schools, charter schools, and residential child care institutions (RCCIs). For questions, please contact Teri Dandeneau at <u>teri.dandeneau@ct.gov</u>.

Need to Know

Updated Nonprogram Pricing Worksheets for Adult Meals for School Year 2022-23

An updated version of the CSDE's <u>Nonprogram Pricing Worksheets for Adult Meals</u> is available for school year 2022-23. This Excel document contains two worksheets to determine the breakfast and lunch price for adult meals:

- Worksheet 1: Pricing of Adult Meals in School Nutrition Programs
- Worksheet 2: Pricing of Adult Meals in Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Schools

As a reminder, Section <u>7 CFR 210.14 (f)</u> of the NSLP regulations requires that the revenue from the sale of nonprogram foods covers the cost of the food and is not subsidized though federal reimbursement. "**Nonprogram foods**" include any nonreimbursable foods and beverages purchased using funds from the NSFSA. For more information on nonprogram foods, visit the "<u>Nonprogram Foods</u>" section of the CSDE's <u>Financial Management for School Nutrition Programs</u> webpage.

USDA Foods Direct Delivery Update on Orange Juice Cups

Due to vendor constraints, orders of Material Code 110651, Orange Juice Single Frozen Cups, have been moved to the delivery date of April 15, 2023. Until this product is in purchased status, please plan to buy this product commercially. As a reminder, Recipient Agencies (RAs) may find information on moved or canceled USDA Foods by running the Requisition Status Report in WBSCM. For additional information on WBSCM and running reports, please refer to the CSDE's WBSCM Training Guide. Instructions for running the Requisition Status Report start on page 87. For school year 2022-23, remember to leave the program blank to capture all orders since RAs may have items listed for two programs, the NSLP and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

Now Available: CSDE's Menu Planning Checklists for Lunch for Grades K-12 for School Year 2022-23

The CSDE's Menu Planning Checklists for Lunch for Grades K-12 for school year 2022-23 are now available. These checklists assist school food authorities (SFAs) with planning meals to meet the NSLP meal pattern. Checklists are available for the required grade groups (K-5, 6-8, and 9-12) and the optional grade groups for K-8, for both five-day and seven-day weeks.

Updated CSDE Resource: Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP (December 2022)

An updated version of the CSDE's <u>Crediting Breakfast Cereals for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP</u>, is available (dated December 2022). This updated version clarifies that the limit for noncreditable grains, which previously applied only to cooked breakfast cereals like oatmeal, also applies to ready-to-eat (RTE) breakfast cereals, effective July 1, 2022. To credit in the school meal patterns for grades K-12, all breakfast cereals must be WGR, enriched, or fortified, and **cannot exceed 6.99 grams of noncreditable grains per portion**.

This resource is available in the "<u>Grains</u>" section of the CSDE's <u>Crediting Foods in School Nutrition</u> <u>Programs</u> webpage. Please discard any versions downloaded prior to today and replace with the December 2022 version.

Updated CSDE Resources: Grain Ounce Equivalents for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP, Grain Ounce Equivalents for the NSLP and SBP Preschool Meal Patterns, and Grains/Breads Servings for Grades K-12 in the ASP

Updated versions (December 2022) are available for the grain ounce equivalents/servings resources below. The bullets below each resource indicate the changes. Please discard any versions downloaded prior to today and replace with the December 2022 versions.

Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP: Grain Ounce Equivalents for Grades K-12 in the NSLP and SBP

- Changing the description of the grain products below to reflect that that all types (whole grain, whole-grain rich, and enriched) are allowed:
 - o Changing "Pita bread, whole wheat or whole-grain rich" Pita bread
 - o Changing "Rolls, whole wheat or whole-grain rich" to "Rolls"
 - o Changing "Taco shells, whole wheat or whole corn" to "Taco shells"
 - Changing Tortilla chips, whole wheat or whole corn" to "Tortilla chips"
 - o Changing "Tortillas, whole wheat or whole corn" to "Tortillas"
- Highlighting grain-based desserts in red for easy identification.

Preschoolers in the NSLP and SBP: Grain Ounce Equivalents for the NSLP and SBP Preschool Meal Patterns:

Corrected links to USDA product formulation statement for grains

Grades K-12 in the ASP: Grains/Breads Servings for Grades K-12 in the ASP

• Highlighting grain-based desserts in red for easy identification.

Retirement of Team Nutrition Network

The Team Nutrition Network, an online database of contact information for <u>Team Nutrition Schools</u> and <u>Team Nutrition Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Organizations</u>, will be retired on June 30, 2023. Access is still available to the main <u>Team Nutrition Website</u> and its Team Nutrition resources. The USDA is simplifying how schools and CACFP organizations can stay connected to Team Nutrition and request printed resources.

The retirement of the online Team Nutrition Schools and CACFP Organizations Network will occur in two phases:

- Phase 1: Later in December 2022, Team Nutrition will stop collecting new and updated enrollments.
- Phase 2: By June 30, 2023, the Team Nutrition Schools and Team Nutrition CACFP Organizations websites will be retired, and the information will be unavailable online.

Current Team Nutrition Network members do not need to take any action.

- Network members will continue to receive e-mail updates from Team Nutrition. Network
 members are already part of Team Nutrition's subscriber list in GovDelivery, the platform used
 to deliver e-newsletters and other updates. To check and update your GovDelivery
 subscription, visit
 - https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFNS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USFNS_94.
- Network members may order printed copies of Team Nutrition's materials, while supplies last, by visiting the main <u>Team Nutrition Order Form</u>. Stickers, decals, and other items from the Team Nutrition Network Promotional Order Form have been moved to the main Team Nutrition Order Form.

For questions about the retirement of the Team Nutrition Network, please contact TeamNutrition@USDA.gov

Resource Roundup: Monitoring the Order Status of USDA Foods

The Food Distribution Program (FDP) team frequently reminds school food directors to run a Requisition Status Report at least monthly to monitor the status of USDA Foods orders going to processors and the state contracted warehouse. The <u>WBSCM Training Guide</u> on the <u>FDP</u> webpage, provides step-by-step instructions on how to run this report, as well as ordering and contact information.

Good to Know

USDA Newsletters for Child Nutrition Programs

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) offers a variety of electronic newsletters for sponsors of the Child Nutrition Programs. Some examples include The Dirt (USDA's Office of Community Food Systems), MyPlate Tip of the Day, and Team Nutrition. To subscribe, visit https://www.fns.usda.gov/newsroom/fns-newsletters.

Team Nutrition's Whole Grains Web Quiz

Team Nutrition recently announced a new <u>Whole Grains Quiz</u> that is the latest addition to the <u>web quiz collection</u> This new quiz supports information provided in the updated <u>Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs</u>, <u>Whole Grains Resource for the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs</u>, <u>Crediting Handbook for the Child and Adult Care Food Program</u>, and the <u>Dietary Guidelines for Americans</u>.

The Whole Grains Quiz is comprised of 10 self-paced questions and provides feedback for correct and incorrect answer choices. The user may retake the quiz or retry questions as many times as desired. Team Nutrition Quizzes are also available as widgets that can be easily embedded and displayed on other webpages.



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_12_14_2022.pdf.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
 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

5. Chian. program.mtake@dsda.gov

The Connecticut State Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Connecticut Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of age, ancestry, color, criminal record (in state employment and licensing), gender identity or expression, genetic information, intellectual disability, learning disability, marital status, mental disability (past or present), national origin, physical disability (including blindness), race, religious creed, retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, sex (pregnancy or sexual harassment), sexual orientation, veteran status or workplace hazards to reproductive systems, unless there is a bona fide occupational qualification excluding persons in any of the aforementioned protected classes.

Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Levy Gillespie, Equal Employment Opportunity Director/Americans with Disabilities Coordinator (ADA), Connecticut State Department of Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 505, Hartford, CT 06103, 860-807-2071, levy.gillespie@ct.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.