

The School Lunch Tray: January 18, 2023

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

- New CSDE Training Program: What's in a Meal: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Meal Patterns for Grades K-12
- CSDE Training Announcement: Food Service Management Company (FSMC) Request for Proposals (RFP) Process: Friday, January 27, 2023
- Table Talk on Break
- Resource Roundup: USDA's Offer versus Serve (OVS) Tip Sheets

Good to Know

- USDA Webinar Recording Available: Become a Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool (PSTTT) Pro: A Review of the PSTTT

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.



Need to Know

New CSDE Training Program: What's in a Meal: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Meal Patterns for Grades K-12

The CSDE is pleased to announce *What's in a Meal: National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Meal Patterns for Grades K-12*, a new training program for school nutrition programs. *What's in a Meal* is a series of 16 recorded training modules that provide comprehensive guidance on complying with the meal patterns for grades K-12 in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP. These modules are intended for school food service professionals in the NSLP, SBP, and SSO, including food service directors, managers, and staff.

The CSDE is releasing the 16 modules in stages. The first five modules are available now on the CSDE's [Meal Pattern Training for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage. The CSDE will notify school food authorities as additional modules are released.

What's in a Meal modules released January 18, 2023

- 1: Introduction to Training
- 2: Introduction to School Meal Patterns
- 3: National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Meal Pattern
- 4: School Breakfast Program (SBP) Meal Pattern
- 5: Dietary Specifications

What's in a Meal modules coming soon

- 6: Meal Pattern Documentation
 - 7: Milk Component
 - 8: Meat/Meat Alternates (MMA) Component
 - 9: Fruits Component
 - 10: Vegetables Component
 - 11: Grains Component
 - 12: Whole Grain-rich (WGR) Requirement
 - 13: Grain Ounce Equivalents
 - 14: Water Availability During Meal Service
 - 15: Offer versus Serve (OVS) in the NSLP
 - 16: Offer versus Serve (OVS) in the SBP
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CSDE Training Announcement: Food Service Management Company (FSMC) Request for Proposals (RFP) Process: Friday, January 27, 2023

On Friday, January 27, 2023, the CSDE will hold a FSMC RFP process training for districts with expiring contracts and new districts planning to move from a self-operation to a FSMC operated nutrition program. This is mandatory training for **sponsors only** to review the RFP and supporting document process. **Note:** FSMC representatives cannot attend.

Training will be conducted via Microsoft Teams from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Please contact Sean Fogarty at sean.fogarty@ct.gov to register for this training.

Table Talk on Break

The CSDE's Table Talk webinar series is currently on break. The CSDE will notify school food authorities when Table Talk resumes.

Resource Roundup: USDA's Offer versus Serve (OVS) Tip Sheets

The USDA has two tips sheets that provide an overview of OVS guidance for school foodservice professionals. These documents assist food service managers with understanding OVS and identifying reimbursable meals with OVS. The NSLP version also includes a "Test Your OVS Skills" section that can be used as a training tool.

- [Offer versus Tip Sheet for Food Service Managers: National School Lunch Program](#)
- [Offer versus Tip Sheet for Food Service Managers: School Breakfast Program](#)

For additional resources on OVS, visit the CSDE's [Offer versus Serve for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.

Good to Know

USDA Webinar Recording Available: Become a Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool (PSTTT) Pro: A Review of the PSTTT

The PSTTT is a free and voluntary online tool developed by USDA to assist school nutrition professionals in keeping track of their annual required training hours. This webinar reviews the basic features of the PSTTT including how to manage employee profiles, log training, and print certificates. It also highlights some of the latest updates to the PSTTT, such as deactivating and reactivating employee profiles, bulk upload of trainings and employee profiles, and the new job title categories.

The webinar recording is available with English or Spanish captions at the links below.

- English captions: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/review-professional-standards-training-tracker-tool>
 - Spanish captions: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/es/tn/review-professional-standards-training-tracker-tool>
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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/2023/SLT_01_18_2023.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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