

# The School Lunch Tray: March 8, 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.

*Happy National School Breakfast Week!*

## **Action Items**

- Final Reminder: Orders for USDA Foods for School Year 2023-24 Due March 10, 2023

## **Need to Know**

- USDA Memo SFSP 01-2023, SP 05-2023: Implementation Guidance: Summer 2023 Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas
- USDA Memo SP 06-2023, CACFP 05-2023, SFSP 02-2023: Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023: Effect on Child Nutrition Programs
- Serving Lunches During Connecticut Summative Assessment Days
- Revised CSDE Guide and Resources on Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs
- Updated CSDE Form and Instructions: Medical Statement for Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs
- USDA Webinar Recording Available: Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Proposed Rule
- Resource Roundup: List of Connecticut Sponsors of the NSLP and SBP for School Year 2022-23

## **Good to Know**

- Team Nutrition Resources for National School Breakfast Week: March 6-10, 2023
- FDA Launches New Directory of Ingredients Used in Products Marketed as Dietary Supplements

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

### **Final Reminder: Orders for USDA Foods for School Year 2023-24 Due March 10, 2023**

The deadline to place orders for school year 2023-24 in Web Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) is **Friday, March 10, 2023**. Please carefully review and follow the CSDE's [Instructions for Ordering USDA Foods for School Year 2023-24](#). This document and the [USDA Foods Ordering Worksheets for School Year 2023-24](#) are available in the "[WBSCM](#)" section of the CSDE's FDP webpage. For questions, please contact the [FDP staff](#).

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## Need to Know

### **USDA Memo SFSP 01-2023, SP 05-2023: Implementation Guidance: Summer 2023 Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas**

[USDA Memo SFSP 01-2023 and SP 05-2023](#) provides guidance on the administration and operation of non-congregate meal service in rural areas during summer 2023 for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

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### **USDA Memo SP 06-2023, CACFP 05-2023, SFSP 02-2023: Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023: Effect on Child Nutrition Programs**

[USDA Memo SP 06-2023, CACFP 05-2023, and SFSP 02-2023](#) provides notice to Child Nutrition Program operators regarding Sections 740, 751, 752, and 777 of Division A and Sections 502 and 503 of Division HH of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) (the Appropriations Act), enacted on December 29, 2022. A summary of the topics addressed in this memo is below. Refer to the memo for details.

- Crediting of Starchy Vegetables in the School Breakfast Program (SBP)
  - Prohibition on the Use of Chicken from China
  - Compliance with Paid Lunch Equity Requirements
  - Renaming of the Farm to School Program
  - Establishment of a Noncongregate Meal Service Option in the SFSP for Rural Areas
  - Establishment of Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children Program (Summer EBT)
  - Changes to Pandemic EBT
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### Serving Lunches During Connecticut Summative Assessment Days

CSDE designated days for [Connecticut Summative Assessments](#), including the PSAT and SAT, are considered school days. Therefore, students enrolled in schools participating in the NSLP must be offered a lunch meal *while school is in session*, and prior to the end of the school day. As a reminder, grab and go meals are not permitted to be taken off the school premises and must be consumed onsite. Information regarding requirements for lunch periods in the NSLP may be found in [Operational Memorandum No. 03-22: Updated Requirements for Lunch Periods in the National School Lunch Program \(NSLP\)](#). Questions may be directed to your [school nutrition team member](#).

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### Revised CSDE Guide and Resources on Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs (March 2023)

The updated resources below provide guidance on the USDA requirements for meal modifications in the school nutrition programs. Updates include the current USDA and CSDE nondiscrimination statements and weblinks. Updates to the guide also include replacing references to the obsolete Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) food regulations with the 2022 Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Food Code, and minor content changes.

- CSDE guide: [Accommodating Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs](#)
- Milk substitutes: [Allowable Milk Substitutes for Children without Disabilities in School Nutrition Programs](#)
- Procedural safeguards: [Requirements for Procedural Safeguards for Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs](#)
- Summary chart: [Summary of Requirements for Accommodating Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs](#)

All resources are available on the CSDE's [Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage. Please discard any versions downloaded prior to today and replace with the revised versions dated March 2023.

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### Updated CSDE Form and Instructions: Medical Statement for Meal Modifications in School Nutrition Programs

The CSDE has updated the English and Spanish versions of the medical statement and instructions to include the revised USDA and CSDE nondiscrimination statement and updated links. The medical statements are now formatted as form-fillable PDFs. These documents are available in the "[Medical Statements for School Nutrition Programs](#)" section of the CSDE's [Special Diets in School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage. Please discard any versions downloaded prior to today and replace with the revised versions dated March 2023.

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## The School Lunch Tray: March 8, 2023

### USDA Webinar Recording Available: Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Proposed Rule

The [webinar recording](#), “Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans Proposed Rule” is now available on the Food and Nutrition Service’s website. Comments on the proposed rule can be submitted through the [Federal eRulemaking Portal](#). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. The public comment period is expected to close on April 10, 2023.

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### Resource Roundup: List of Connecticut Sponsors of the NSLP and SBP for School Year 2022-23

The CSDE’s list of [Connecticut Sponsors of the National School Lunch Program \(NSLP\) and School Breakfast Program \(SBP\)](#) for school year 2022-23 is now available. This list includes Connecticut public schools, private schools, and residential child care institutions (RCCIs) that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) NSLP and SBP.

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## Good to Know

### Team Nutrition Resources for National School Breakfast Week: March 6-10, 2023

USDA’s Team Nutrition initiative offers a variety of resources that schools can use to help give kids a healthy start with school breakfast:

#### Resources for Teachers and the School Community

- Breakfast Around the World [game](#) and [informational text](#) (part of Fueling My Healthy Life classroom materials for middle school)
- [Kids Are Stronger with School Breakfast](#) video
- [School Breakfast Photo Props](#) (free print copies now available for program operators)
- [School Breakfast Quiz](#) (now available in [Spanish](#))
- [Shareable Graphics](#) (now available in [Spanish](#))

#### Meal Planning Resources for School Nutrition Professionals

- [Best Practices for Reducing Added Sugars at School Breakfast](#)
- [Offering Meats and Meat Alternates at School Breakfast](#) (available in English and Spanish)
- [Offering Smoothies as Part of Reimbursable School Meals](#) (available in English and Spanish)

For more resources, visit Team Nutrition’s [School Breakfast Materials](#) webpage. This webpage is also available in Spanish at [fns.usda.gov/es/tn/sbp-materials](https://fns.usda.gov/es/tn/sbp-materials).

### **FDA Launches New Directory of Ingredients Used in Products Marketed as Dietary Supplements**

On March 6, 2023, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released its new [Dietary Supplement Ingredient Directory](#) website for ingredients used in products marketed as dietary supplements. This directory includes links to the FDA's actions and communications regarding particular dietary ingredients and other ingredients used in products marketed as dietary supplements.

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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, Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SLT/2023/SLT\\_03\\_08\\_2023.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SLT/2023/SLT_03_08_2023.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; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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