

# The School Lunch Tray: April 5, 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

- Reminder: Join the CSDE for Table Talk on Thursday, April 6, 2023
- Use of Emergency Procurement Method When Public Health Emergency Ends
- USDA Foods Transferring "Whole Bird" Pounds (White and Dark Meat)
- USDA Foods Update on Orange Juice Cups, Material Code 110651
- USDA Memo SP 07-2023, CACFP 06-2023 and SFSP 04-2023: Unique Entity Identifier Transition
- Webinar Recording Available: Navigating the USDA Foods Database
- No Table Talk on Thursday, April 20, 2023
- Resource Roundup: CSDE's Training Program: What's in a Meal Module 2: Introduction to School Meal Patterns

## Good to Know

- Institute of Child Nutrition's (ICN) iBites Digest
- CICN Webinar Series: What a Chef Can Do for You: Promotion of Culinary Professionals in School Nutrition Programs, April 6, 2023
- No Kid Hungry Summer Webinar Series: School's Out, Food's In: Spread the Word: Summer Meals and Summer Pandemic EBT Outreach and Promotion, April 25, 2023
- No Kid Hungry Webinar: Hot Breakfast in the Classroom: How to Transition Your Breakfast in the Classroom Program from Cold to Hot, April 27, 2023

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.



# The School Lunch Tray: April 5, 2023

## Need to Know

### **Reminder: Join the CSDE for Table Talk on Thursday, April 6, 2023**

Join the CSDE for Table Talk on Thursday, April 6, 2023, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Table Talk will review pertinent information from the School Lunch Tray newsletters. To submit questions in advance, visit [https://sdect.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5px5YKVBdQNQZDo](https://sdect.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5px5YKVBdQNQZDo).

Registration is not required. Please use the link below to join Table Talk on Microsoft Teams.

### **Microsoft Teams meeting**

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 225 336 668 44

Passcode: muTuBy

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

### **Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 860-840-2075, 327687577#](tel:+18608402075327687577) United States, Hartford

Phone Conference ID: 327 687 577#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

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## **Use of Emergency Procurement Method When Public Health Emergency Ends**

Sponsors of the Child Nutrition Programs have been able to use the regulatory authority found in federal procurement regulations at 2 CFR 200.320(c)(3), which allows operators to use the emergency noncompetitive proposal procurement method. This is available to operators who determine that current emergency circumstances exist that do not allow competitive procurements to be completed. The Department of Health and Human Services is planning for the federal Public Health Emergency for Covid-19 to expire on May 11, 2023. Therefore, the use of the emergency noncompetitive proposal procurement method for a public exigency or emergency will not be permitted beyond that date. As a reminder, all procurements made with funds from the nonprofit school food service account must follow all federal procurement regulations and, when more stringent, state and/or local regulations.

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## The School Lunch Tray: April 5, 2023

### **USDA Foods Transferring “Whole Bird” Pounds (White and Dark Meat)**

Bulk chicken requested to be sent to a processor is a mix of both dark and white meat. When Recipient Agencies (RA) request additional pounds during the year, both white and dark are normally transferred. Due to the supply chain challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and product availability affecting planned menus, the Connecticut Food Distribution Program (FDP) temporarily adjusted this practice to allow RA to request only white or dark meat.

The Department of Health and Human Services is planning for the federal Public Health Emergency for Covid-19 to expire on May 11, 2023. At that time, the FDP will resume the practice of transferring only “whole bird” pounds (both white and dark meat) when RAs submit requests for additional pounds. RAs must plan their menu items to use both the white and dark meat. Contact the [FDP](#) with any questions.

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### **USDA Foods Update on Orange Juice Cups, Material Code 110651**

The final two trucks of USDA Foods for school year 2022-23 are on the way to Connecticut. RAs should continue to review their allocation reports through the end of May to ensure they can take delivery of all remaining USDA Foods items. RAs may check if orange juice is coming by running a *Requisition Status Report* for Material Code 110651. For assistance with running WBSCM Reports, refer to page 77 of the FDP’s [WBSCM Training Guide](#).

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### **USDA Memo SP 07-2023, CACFP 06-2023 and SFSP 04-2023: Unique Entity Identifier Transition**

[USDA Memo SP 07-2023, CACFP 06-2023 and SFSP 04-2023](#) provides guidance to state agencies and local program operators as they transition to using the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) directed federal agencies to complete system transitions from use of the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) to the UEI on April 4, 2022. Obtaining the UEI is necessary as Federal award recipients (e.g., state agencies) cannot make a subaward to subrecipients (e.g., Child Nutrition Programs institutions, facilities, sponsoring organizations, sponsors, and schools) without the entity obtaining the UEI.

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### **Webinar Recording Available: Navigating the USDA Foods Database**

The USDA’s webinar, [Navigating the USDA Foods Database](#), provided instructions to state agencies and school districts on how to navigate the USDA Foods Database to access vendor-specific product information, including nutrients, allergens, ingredients, and certifications. The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) shared important resources to help utilize the USDA Foods Database, including release notes, step-by-step written instructions, FAQs, and other useful information.

## The School Lunch Tray: April 5, 2023

### No Table Talk on Thursday, April 20, 2023

Table Talk will not be held on Thursday, April 20, 2023, due to training for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Table Talk will resume on Thursday, May 4, 2023.

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### Resource Roundup: CSDE's Training Program: What's in a Meal Module 2: Introduction to School Meal Patterns

Module 2 of the CSDE's *What's in a Meal* training program introduces the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) meal patterns, provides an overview of the federal legislation for school meals, identifies the requirements for food-based menu planning (including food components, servings, and meal pattern requirements), and describes resources for guidance and training on the school meal patterns. This module is available on the CSDE's [Meal Pattern Training for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.

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## Good to Know

### Institute of Child Nutrition's (ICN) iBites Digest

Subscribe to ICN's [iBites Digest](#) for updates and to stay informed about all the free ICN resources available for download at <https://theicn.org/>.

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### CICN Webinar Series: What a Chef Can Do for You: Promotion of Culinary Professionals in School Nutrition Programs, April 6, 2023

This webinar aims to delve deeper into the possible positions that trained chefs can occupy in school nutrition programs. Attendees will learn about the Institute of Child Nutrition Applied Research Division's *Exploratory Investigation of the Roles, Responsibilities, and Impact of Chefs Working in School Nutrition Programs*.

- *Date and time:* April 6, 2023, 3:00 p.m.
  - *Registration:* [https://theicn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_lQ-KjJhfTuyJ\\_7UhMkq42w](https://theicn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_lQ-KjJhfTuyJ_7UhMkq42w)
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## The School Lunch Tray: April 5, 2023

### **No Kid Hungry Summer Webinar Series: School's Out, Food's In: Spread the Word: Summer Meals and Summer Pandemic EBT Outreach and Promotion, April 25, 2023**

Learn strategies and tactics to raise awareness about the availability of summer meals in your community. In this webinar, you will hear from three experts on how they've been able to grow participation in their summer meals program through marketing, promotion, and outreach.

- *Date and time:* April 25, 2023, 3:00 p.m.
  - *Registration:* <https://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars/spread-word-summer-meals-and-summer-pandemic-ebt-outreach-and-promotion>
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### **No Kid Hungry Webinar: Hot Breakfast in the Classroom: How to Transition Your Breakfast in the Classroom Program from Cold to Hot, April 27, 2023**

Join this webinar to learn the ins and outs of offering hot breakfast in the classroom

- *Date and time:* April 27, 2023, 1:00 p.m.
  - *Registration:* <https://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/webinars/hot-breakfast-classroom-how-transition-your-breakfast-classroom-program-cold-hot>
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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\\_04\\_05\\_2023.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SLT/2023/SLT_04_05_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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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