

# The School Lunch Tray: April 19, 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**

- Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Sponsors Encouraged to Attend Annual Summer Meals Training Webinars

## **Need to Know**

- Reminder: No Table Talk for Thursday, April 20, 2023
- USDA Foods Update: Wrapping Up School Year 2022-23
- Summer Training for New School Nutrition Directors: August 8-11, 2023
- New Food Buying Guide Yields: Apple Bananas, Chokecherries, Taro, and Fresh Apples
- USDA Webinar Recording Available: Summer 2023 Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas
- Resource Roundup: CSDE's Training Program: What's in a Meal Module 4: School Breakfast Program (SBP) Meal Pattern

## **Good to Know**

- None

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 19, 2023

## Action Items

### Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Sponsors Encouraged to Attend Annual Summer Meals Training Webinars

SSO sponsors are strongly encouraged to attend the CSDE's annual Summer Meal Programs training. This training will be held as a series of webinars on Thursdays from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Recorded webinars will be available for sponsors who cannot attend live.

- **April 20, 2023:** Updates to Summer Meal Programs Operations
- **May 18, 2023:** Local Foods, USDA Foods, Food Safety
- **June 8, 2023:** Summer Meals Outreach
- **June 22, 2023:** Hold in event of USDA Updates

**Note:** These trainings are specifically recommended for SSO sponsors. SSO sponsors may also choose to attend the entire Summer Meals training series.

Registration is not required for SSO sponsors. To attend each training, use the TEAMS link below.

Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 273 960 499 287

Passcode: tK8s2c

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

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 860-840-2075](tel:+18608402075).,128618960# United States, Hartford

Phone Conference ID: 128 618 960#

For questions about Summer Meal training, please contact [caroline.cooke@ct.gov](mailto:caroline.cooke@ct.gov).

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## Need to Know

### **Reminder: No Table Talk for Thursday, April 20, 2023**

Table Talk will not be held on Thursday, April 20, 2023, due to the SFSP training. Table Talk will resume on Thursday, May 4, 2023. To submit questions in advance, visit [https://sdect.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5px5YKVBdQNQZDo](https://sdect.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5px5YKVBdQNQZDo).

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### **USDA Foods Update: Wrapping Up School Year 2022-23**

As a reminder, there are only two to three more USDA Foods deliveries from the HPC warehouse for this school year. Recipient Agencies (RAs) should continue to check monthly allocations and schedule deliveries as appropriate. The HPC warehouse received the last truck of orange juice cups last week, so all cases should be on the next available allocation report. For RAs with significant balances at this point in the school year, product may be transferred to another RA who has used their allocated USDA Foods.

Please continue to place orders for pounds diverted to processors as the sweep of all remaining pounds from this school year will proceed on June 30, 2023. For additional information on sweeps, please refer to [Operational Memorandum No. 02-19: USDA Foods – Processing of USDA Foods](#).

Additional dollars are available for the USDA DoD Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program for this school year. Please contact the [Food Distribution Program \(FDP\) Staff](#) to request additional funds for balances that fall below 10% of original allocation. Prior to approving additional DoD Funds, the FDP will review current usage of all USDA Foods ordered for this school year.

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### **Summer Training for New School Nutrition Directors: August 8-11, 2023**

The CSDE, in conjunction with the Institute of Child Nutrition, will be hosting a training targeted towards new school nutrition directors (including directors who have been hired within the past three years). *Introduction to School Nutrition Leadership* will take place **August 8-11, 2023**. The CSDE is pleased to announce that the instructor will be Lonnie Burt, Director of Food Services in Hartford, CT. Attendance is limited, and new school nutrition directors will be ***expected to attend***. If space allows, the training will be opened to other school food service personnel who are interested in learning about becoming a school nutrition director. More information will be available soon. For questions, contact Teri Dandeneau, [teri.dandeneau@ct.gov](mailto:teri.dandeneau@ct.gov).

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## The School Lunch Tray: April 19, 2023

### **New Food Buying Guide Yields: Apple Bananas, Chokecherries, Taro, and Fresh Apples**

New yields are now available in the [Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs](#) Interactive Web-based (FBG) Tool and FBG Mobile App! New yield data is available for these highly requested foods: apple bananas, chokecherries, taro, and fresh apples.

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### **USDA Webinar Recording Available: Summer 2023 Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas**

On March 7, 2023, the USDA Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) hosted a live webinar for state agencies and FNS staff on an overview of Summer 2023 Non-congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas. To access the webinar recording and presentation slides, visit the USDA's [Summer 2023 Non-Congregate Meal Service in Rural Areas State Agency Webinar](#) webpage. **Note:** This webinar was intended for state agencies but summarizes information that would help sponsors understand these requirements. For additional information, please contact [caroline.cooke@ct.gov](mailto:caroline.cooke@ct.gov).

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### **Resource Roundup: CSDE's Training Program: What's in a Meal Module 4: School Breakfast Program (SBP) Meal Pattern**

This 18-minute module is the fourth in the CSDE's *What's in a Meal* training program. Module 4 reviews the breakfast meal pattern requirements (including the daily and weekly servings of each food component, the weekly requirement for whole grain-rich (WGR) foods, offering meat/meat alternates at breakfast, the weekly limit for juice, and the weekly dietary specifications) and describes resources for guidance and training on the SBP meal pattern. This module is available on the CSDE's [Meal Pattern Training for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.

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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\\_19\\_2023.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SLT/2023/SLT_04_19_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
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