

The School Lunch Tray: July 30, 2025

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

- Triennial Assessment (Due June 30, 2025) and Reporting Form Due September 15, 2025

Need to Know

- USDA Memo SP 18-2025: Guidance on Fees for Electronic Payment Services in the School Meal Programs

Good to Know

- Culinary Institute of Child Nutrition (CICN) Webinar Series: How to Incorporate Fresh Produce into Scratch Cooking, Thursday, August 7, 2025
- Resource Roundup: Institute of Child Nutrition's (ICN) Upcoming Webinars Webpage



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

Triennial Assessment (Due June 30, 2025) and Reporting Form Due September 15, 2025

As a reminder, all sponsors were federally required to complete the triennial assessment of their Local School Wellness Policy (LSWP) by June 30, 2025, and to make the results publicly available. This includes posting the assessment summary on the organization's website or sharing it through other public channels.

In addition, the CSDE requires all sponsors to complete the [Triennial Assessment Reporting Form](#) by September 15, 2025. This reporting form allows the CSDE to track sponsor compliance with federal requirements related to the triennial assessment and public disclosure of LSWP implementation.

For guidance and resources related to the triennial assessment and local wellness policies, visit the ["Triennial Assessments"](#) section of the CSDE's School Wellness Policies webpage. For questions, email fionnuala.brown@ct.gov.

The CSDE thanks sponsors for their continued efforts to support student health and wellness in Connecticut schools.

Need to Know

USDA Memo SP 18-2025: Guidance on Fees for Electronic Payment Services in the School Meal Programs

[USDA Memo SP 18-2025](#): Guidance on Fees for Electronic Payment Services in the School Meal Programs provides updated guidance regarding fees for electronic payment in the school nutrition programs.

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Good to Know

Culinary Institute of Child Nutrition (CICN) Webinar Series: How to Incorporate Fresh Produce into Scratch Cooking, Thursday, August 7, 2025

This webinar will offer ideas to help make the most of fresh ingredients in school meals. Real life examples from schools, strategies for building partnerships among schools, famers, and communities and best practice and ICN resources will be shared.

- **Date and time:** Thursday, August 7, 2025, 3:00-4:00 p.m.
- **Registration:** <https://ilearn.theicn.org/learn/courses/727/cicn-how-to-incorporate-fresh-produce-into-scratch-cooking-august-7th-2025-3pm-est>

Resource Roundup: Institute of Child Nutrition's (ICN) Upcoming Webinars Webpage

Looking for upcoming webinars on topics for the Child Nutrition Programs? Visit the [Upcoming Webinars](#) section of the ICN's iLearn webpage.

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For more information, visit the Connecticut State Department of Education's [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/2025/slt_07_30_2025.pdf.

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