

The School Lunch Tray: July 22, 2026

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. 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.

Action Items

- Buy Local Program Payment Request Form is Open 

Need to Know

- None

Good to Know

- None

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Action Items

Buy Local Program Payment Request Form is Open



The [CT Fresh Ed: Buy Local Program Payment Request form](#) is updated and live. The next payment submission deadline is August 15, 2026. Please review the updated instructions in the form before completing. Visit the [Buy Local Program](#) website for updated Buy Local Program (BLP) guidance including the updated [CT Fresh Ed: Buy Local Program Questions and Answers](#) from May 2026.

The form currently accepts eligible purchases back to July 2025. Sponsors are encouraged to submit any purchases from school year 2025-26 by the deadlines of August 15, 2026, or October 15, 2026, as these payment requests might not be allowed in future submissions.

Reminder: Minimally processed, multi-ingredient products (marinara sauce, salsa, yogurt, etc..) require documentation of the ingredient list to ensure eligibility with BLP guidelines.

Regional Farm to School Coordinators can help with product eligibility, identifying farms, BLP documentation, and form submission. For questions about remaining BLP funds or the payment request form, please contact dawn.crayco@uconn.edu.

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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/2026/slt_07_22_2026.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

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