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.

- Comparison Chart: Operating the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for School Food Authorities in School Year 2021-22 through June 30, 2022
- USDA Foods Update on Strawberry Cups (Strawberries, Frozen, Diced, Single Serve, 4.5 oz), Material Code 100256 for School Year 2021-22
- Connecticut Department of Agriculture receives 2021 Farm to School Grant
- 2019 Farm to School Census Results and Website Now Available
- Webinar on August 5, 2021: Farm to School: Fresh Ideas for Preparing Fall Fruits and Vegetables
- Now Available: USDA's "How to Maximize the Exhibit A Grains Tool" Webinar Captioned in Spanish
- Team Nutrition's Electronic Newsletters for School Nutrition Programs
- New Feature Alert for the Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool
- Update to Child Nutrition Database Release 24
- Resource Roundup: USDA's Back to School Webpage

Please review and share with appropriate staff members. Thank you.



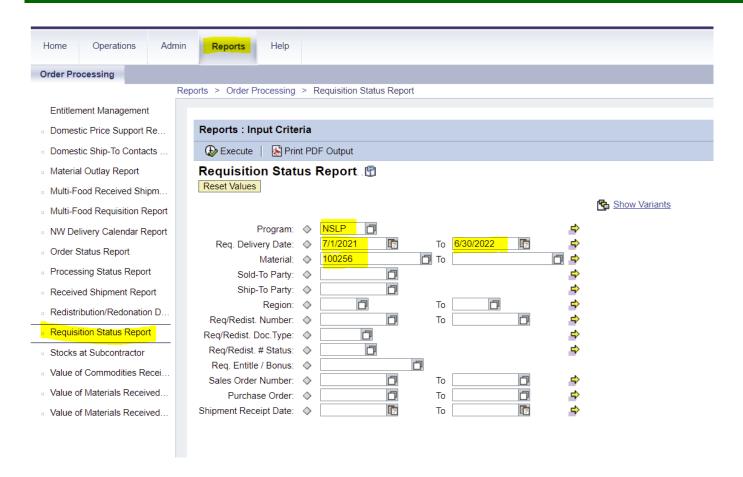
Comparison Chart: Operating the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for School Food Authorities in School Year 2021-22 through June 30, 2022

The CSDE's document, <u>Comparison of Operating the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO)</u> <u>for School Food Authorities in School Year 2021-22 through June 30, 2022</u>, is now available in the "<u>Implementation Resources</u>" section of the CSDE's Operating Child Nutrition Programs during COVID-19 Outbreaks webpage. This document contains a chart that assists sponsors with deciding whether to operate the NSLP or SSO for school year 2021-22, through June 30, 2022.

USDA Foods Update on Strawberry Cups (Strawberries, Frozen, Diced, Single Serve, 4.5 oz), Material Code 100256 for School Year 2021-22

Due to unforeseen industry-wide crop shortages, and after multiple attempts at procuring this product, unfortunately five trucks of USDA Foods Strawberry Cups have been cancelled. This is approximately 50 percent of our state's orders for school year 2021-22. There will be no other opportunity to order additional trucks for this coming school year.

All orders have been adjusted to reflect these changes. They will be available for view in WBSCM by running your Requisition Status Report for 7/1/2021 through 6/30/2022, and entering in material code 100256. **Everyone's orders were adjusted, so please take the time to review your report.**



To make the cancellations fair, we had to move product from some Recipient Agencies (RAs) to other RAs. If you find the "Applied" status in your report, it means you were either given additional cases or you had some of your cases transferred to another RA. If the Applied status shows a negative number in the "Requested Quantity" column, those cases were transferred out of your account into another account. You were also credited the entitlement back into your account. If you were given additional cases, your Applied status will add the cases back to your account, and you will be debited the entitlement cost.

Negative quantity in column L means 85 cases were removed from your order:

A	В	C	D	E	F	G	Н	1	J	K	L	M	N
Req/Redist. Doc.Type	Req/Redist. Order#	Req/Redist. Item#	Req/Redist. Status	Ship-To Party	Ship-To Name	Material	Material Desc.	Requested Del. Date	Program	Entitlment/Bonus Ind	Requested Qty.	Sales Unit	Net Dollar Value S
ZREQ	1000475926	900	Approved by SDA	5004843	HPC FOODSERVICE	100256	STRAWBERRY FRZ CUP-96/4.5 OZ	10/15/2021	NSLP	ENTITLE-SY22	197.00	o cs	10,303.97 5
ZRCR	1900197016	100	Applied	5004843	HPC FOODSERVICE	100256	STRAWBERRY FRZ CUP-96/4.5 OZ	10/15/2021	NSLP	ENTITLE-SY22	-85.00	0 CS	-4,445.87

Applied status as shown below means the cases were added back into your account:

II A	В	C	D	E	F	G	Н	1	J	K	L	M	N
Req/Redist. Doc.Type	Req/Redist. Order#	Req/Redist. Item#	Req/Redist. Status	Ship-To Party	Ship-To Name	Material	Material Desc.	Requested Del. Date	Program	Entitlment/Bonus Ind	Requested Qty.	Sales Unit	Net Dollar Value
ZREQ	1000475926	900	Approved by SDA	5004843	HPC FOODSERVICE	E 100256	STRAWBERRY FRZ CUP-96/4.5 OZ	10/15/20	21 NSLP	ENTITLE-SY22	197.00	00 CS	10,303.97
ZRCR	1900197016	100	Applied	5004843	HPC FOODSERVICE	E 100256	STRAWBERRY FRZ CUP-96/4.5 OZ	OZ 10/15/2021 NSLP		ENTITLE-SY22	85.000 CS		4445.87

Unfortunately, due to the way WBSCM works, many districts were unfairly impacted by these cancellations. This was the only way to make these cancellations equitable for all RAs that placed orders for this product.

Connecticut Department of Agriculture receives 2021 Farm to School Grant

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Office of Community Food Systems (OCFS) awarded 2021 Farm to School Grant to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg). CT DoAg will partner with UConn Extension, the Department of Education, and Food Corps to undertake a comprehensive research and planning process with schools, producers, and distributors focused on procuring CT Grown farm products. This grant will engage four school districts in high-need communities to pilot district-level food services procurement support and grower outreach, along with school activities to enhance these relationships. It will also develop new curriculum and promotional tools during CT Grown for CT Kids Week, Ag Day at the Capitol, and through two new promotional campaigns highlighting diverse voices and food cultures in Connecticut. The complete press release and list of grantees is available at https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/grant-awards.

2019 Farm to School Census Results and Website Now Available

The USDA FNS recently announced the release the results of the 2019 Farm to School Census; a one-of-a-kind survey of farm to school activity across the United States. The Farm to School Census is a periodic nationwide survey of school food authorities (SFAs) that collects information on the scope of farm to school activity and the overall impact of farm to school efforts across the nation. For more information, visit the USDA's 2019 Farm to School Census website.

Webinar on August 5, 2021: Farm to School: Fresh Ideas for Preparing Fall Fruits and Vegetables

The Culinary Institute of Child Nutrition (CICN) is presenting the webinar, Farm to School: Fresh Ideas for Preparing Fall Fruits and Vegetables, on Thursday, August 5, 2021, from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Now is the time to think about incorporating late summer and fall fruits and vegetables in your menus, including special celebrations for National Farm to School Month in October. Hear from an expert panel of school nutrition program operators to learn about their unique approaches to using local fruits and vegetables.

- Learning Objective: After the webinar, participants will plan for incorporating fall produce into their foodservice operation.
- SNA Key Areas: 1 Nutrition, 2 Operations
- USDA Professional Standards Codes: 1000 Nutrition, 1100 Menu Planning, 2000 Operations, 2400 Purchasing and Procurement

Registration is available at https://theicn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_93tLfCqBQ4GdiOcoiAWo2g.

Now Available: USDA's "How to Maximize the Exhibit A Grains Tool" Webinar Captioned in Spanish

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative is pleased to announce the release of the "How to Maximize the Exhibit A Grains Tool" English webinar with captions in Spanish.

This webinar demonstrates enhancements to the Exhibit A Grains Tool, which is a feature included with the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (FBG) Interactive Web-Based Tool and FBG Mobile App. The Exhibit A Grains Tool allows a user to search for a grain product (as listed on Exhibit A) and enter in the serving size from the product label. The tool then helps the user determine:

- 1. ounce equivalent (oz eq) grains or grains/bread serving(s) for the grain product;
- 2. amount to serve to provide a desired grains contribution; and
- 3. amount to serve for a grain product in the order to meet the minimum grains requirement by age/grade groups for specific Child Nutrition Programs.

The webinar can be viewed and downloaded at https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-training-resources.

¡Ya disponible! ¡Webinar con subtítulos en español!

La iniciativa de Team Nutrition del USDA se complace en anunciar el lanzamiento del seminario web "Cómo maximizar la herramienta de granos del Apéndice A" en inglés con subtítulos en español.

Este seminario web demuestra las actualizaciones de la herramienta de granos del Apéndice A, que es una función incluida en la herramienta interactive de la Guía de compra de alimentos para los Programas de Nutrición infantil, titulada "Food Buying Guide" (FBG, por sus siglas en ingles) y en la aplicación móvil FBG. La herramienta de granos del Apéndice A permite al usuario buscar un producto de grano (como se indica en el Apéndice A) e ingresar el tamaño de la porción en la etiqueta del producto. Luego, la herramienta ayuda al usuario a determinar:

- 1. onzas equivalentes (oz eq) de granos o porciones de granos/pan para el producto de granos;
- 2. cantidad para servir para proporcionar una contribución de granos deseada; y
- 3. cantidad a servir para un producto de granos a fin de cumplir con el requisito mínimo de granos por grupos de edad/grado para los programas específicos de nutrición infantil.

El seminario web se puede ver y descargar en https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-training-resources.

Team Nutrition's Electronic Newsletters for School Nutrition Programs

The USDA's Team Nutrition offers some electronic newsletters that provide regular updates on latest resources and information about school nutrition programs. You can subscribe by clicking on the newsletter titles below.

- The <u>School Meals Grab n' Go Newsletter</u> provides school nutrition professionals with timely information about hot topics in school breakfast and lunch.
- The <u>Team Nutrition Newsletter</u> announces new or updated nutrition education, training, and technical assistance materials that support child nutrition program operators.

For more information on electronic newsletters related to Child Nutrition Programs, visit the USDA's FNS Newsletters webpage.

New Feature Alert for the Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool

A new feature is now available on the <u>Professional Standards Training Tracker Tool (PSTTT)</u>. Users can select a training title from a list of training titles available on the PSTTT and information related to the training, such as the length of the training, training provider, key areas, training topics, and learning objectives will auto-populate. If users do not find the training they completed on the PSTTT training list, they may manually add the new training title and information to the list. With the latest update, users will now be able to easily upload multiple new training titles at one time to be included in the PSTTT instead of adding one at a time.

Update to Child Nutrition Database Release 24

An update to the most current release of the Child Nutrition Database, Release 24 (CN24), is now available on the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) <u>Child Nutrition Database</u> website and, for software developers, the <u>CNP Approved Nutrition Software</u> PartnerWeb site.

The updated CN24 includes corrections to data for six manufacturers' products (source code 3). A patch file in CSV format is also available. For instructions, please refer to the Read Me file that is included with the patch file. For questions, please contact cnpntab@usda.gov.

Resource Roundup: USDA's Back to School Webpage

The USDA's <u>Back to School</u> webpage provides resources to assist school nutrition professionals as they plan for school meals for the upcoming year and welcome children back to school. This webpage includes the following topics:

- Supporting a Safe Re-opening;
- Communicating about School Meals;
- Planning Healthy Meals; and
- Peer Learning and Resource Sharing



For more information, visit the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) School Lunch Tray Table Talk webpage, or contact the school nutrition programs staff in the CSDE's Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/Training/TableTalk/SLT_07_21_2021.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;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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