

## The School Lunch Tray: November 10, 2021

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.

- Operational Memorandum No. 02-22: Schedule for Submitting Online Reimbursement Claim Data
- CSDE Webinar on November 18, 2021: Direct Certification and the FNS 742 Verification Summary Report
- Student Address Collection by the CSDE
- Institute of Child Nutrition S.T.A.R. Webinar: Recognizing the Dedication and Strength of School Nutrition Heroes: Thursday, November 18, 2021
- New Team Nutrition School Breakfast Web Quiz
- Resource Roundup: Menu Planning and Recipes for Child Nutrition Programs

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



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### **Operational Memorandum No. 02-22: Schedule for Submitting Online Reimbursement Claim Data**

[Operational Memorandum No. 02-22](#) outlines important information regarding the monthly claim submission process and claim due dates. Please review and share with all staff members involved with preparing and submitting claims, e.g., claim preparers and claim submitters. This memo is available on the CSDE's [Operational Memoranda for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.

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### **CSDE Webinar on November 18, 2021: Direct Certification and the FNS 742 Verification Summary Report**

The CSDE will present a webinar on Direct Certification and the FNS 742 Verification Summary Report on Thursday, November 18, 2021. All sponsors participating in the National School Lunch Program or the Seamless Summer Option are expected to attend. Refer to the attached flier for details.

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### **Student Address Collection by the CSDE**

The CSDE will be collecting the most updated mailing addresses for all students through PSIS in November. This collection will enable the CSDE to support upcoming mailings which may include Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) cards as well as letters to students with potential for rigorous courses in high school. This simple collection will utilize the same [student address collection template](#) as was used last year. Once the Address Collection is open, PSIS District Coordinators will be notified via email. If you have any questions, please contact Ajit Gopalakrishnan at [ajit.gopalakrishnan@ct.gov](mailto:ajit.gopalakrishnan@ct.gov).

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### **Institute of Child Nutrition S.T.A.R. Webinar: Recognizing the Dedication and Strength of School Nutrition Heroes: Thursday, November 18, 2021**

The Institute of Child Nutrition's S.T.A.R. Webinar on Thursday, November 18, 2021, from 3:00-4:00 pm ET, will recognize the dedication and work of school nutrition staff across the nation. Although most, if not all, of you have faced difficult situations, you continue to work long, hard hours to meet the increasing demand of serving millions of students. Your innovative and creative ideas to adapt and resolve the challenges of the supply chain disruptions and staff shortages are unmatched. Thank you for all that you do, School Nutrition Heroes!

The Epping School District (NH) and the Seattle Public Schools (WA) will share their actions to address current challenges and creatively serve nutritious meals in the safest way possible.

*Learning Objective:* Attendees will recall the strategies utilized by school districts throughout the nation to address challenges to continue operations of child nutrition programs.

*Webinar registration link:* [https://theicn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_PDLnxiERSpuIvSiwkaTIyg](https://theicn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_PDLnxiERSpuIvSiwkaTIyg)

*Professional Standards Learning Objectives:*

SNA Key Areas: 2-Operations, 3-Administration

USDA Professional Standards Code: 2000, 3000

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### **New Team Nutrition School Breakfast Web Quiz**

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative recently released the School Breakfast web quiz at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/quizzes/school-breakfast>. Other quizzes are available at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/quizzes> and include Infant Nutrition (English and Spanish), Toddler Nutrition (English and Spanish), and School Lunch. Team Nutrition will release additional quiz topics throughout 2021-22.

These 10-question quizzes can be used at trainings and other nutrition events as a fun learning activity. Upon completion of each quiz, quiz takers receive a score with a link to resources that can help expand their knowledge on the topic and build their nutrition skills. Quiz takers can also view a printable version of the questions and answers upon quiz completion.

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### **Resource Roundup: Menu Planning and Recipes for Child Nutrition Programs**

Looking for menu planning and recipe ideas? The CSDE's [Menu Planning for Child Nutrition Programs](#) webpage includes resources on many relevant topics, including the USDA's recipes, [food themes](#) (national food days and food promotions), using [seasonal and local foods](#), and [promoting healthy food choices](#). The "[Recipes for Child Nutrition Programs](#)" section contains link to the [USDA's standardized recipes for schools](#), as well as resources on [using standardized recipes](#) and [using spices and seasonings](#). The CSDE's [Resource List for Menu Planning and Food Production in Child Nutrition Programs](#) contain additional resources related to menu planning and food production.

**Note:** Before using any menus or recipes from **non-USDA sources** (such as other schools and organizations) check to be sure that they comply with the school meal patterns.

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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\\_11\\_10\\_2021.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/Training/TableTalk/SLT_11_10_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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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Join us on **Thursday, November 18, 2021**, from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. for a special webinar addressing **Direct Certification and the FNS 742 Verification Summary Report**. In this webinar, you will learn about the completion of the FNS 742 Verification Summary Report. We will also review the hierarchy and different types of direct certification.



As a reminder, **all** sponsors participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the school Child Nutrition Programs – including private schools and residential child care institutions (RCCIs) – are required to complete the FNS 742 Verification Summary Report, regardless of whether the sponsor had to complete the formal verification process. Therefore, **all sponsors are expected to attend**.

In addition to the questions and answers session, you can also submit questions about **direct certification or the FNS 742 Verification Summary Report in advance** of the webinar. We will answer these questions during the webinar on November 18. Please submit questions to [teri.dandeneau@ct.gov](mailto:teri.dandeneau@ct.gov).

Preregistration is not required. The webinar will be via Microsoft Teams.

**Don't forget to mark your calendars!**  
**November 18, 2021, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.**

**To join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

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