

North Carolina

School Nutrition Weekly Update



Week of July 14-18, 2014

Issue No. 2014.7-3

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Have Questions? Need Assistance?

Please remember to always contact your regional consultants first for any questions or assistance unless directed otherwise.

School Meals Rates of Reimbursement – School Year 2014-15

On July 16, 2014 the Federal Register published the 2014-15 School Meals reimbursement rates notice for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. The 2014-15 School Meals reimbursements rates (for Certified SFAs) are attached and all notices are available on the USDA website at:

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/rates-reimbursement>.

reimbrates-cert.pdf

REMINDER – Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEG) – Federal Register Clarification

As you view the 2014-15 SY Income Eligibility Guidelines-Federal Register document posted on the Child Nutrition website at: <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/front-page/information-resources/eligibility> keep in mind that the IEGs located on the first page (p. 12467) of that document are for the WIC program. The information for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs begins on the first page, but the actual IEG chart for Child Nutrition Programs is located on the second page (p. 12468).

This caused some confusion because there isn't anything on the first page (of the FR document on the website) that clearly states that those guidelines are for the WIC program, so we thought it was important to clarify.

REMINDER – Meal Participation Data Report (4A YTD) New Collection Method

This is a reminder that SFAs are no longer required to submit the Meal Participation Data Report (4A YTD) report. The data for this report is now collected through the Site-based claims.

REMINDER: Q&A - Online Application Packet Checklist Summary

QUESTION:

The Checklist Summary section of the on-line Application Packet requires submission of documents before the online renewal application can be approved in the School Nutrition Technology System (SNTS). Which documents should be mailed and which documents can be uploaded?

ANSWER:

The Checklist Summary list of documents is generated by the answers provided on the SFA and site applications in the SNTS. For those documents that require a signature, the SFA must mail a hard copy with original signatures to the NCDPI School Nutrition Services Section for approval by the Compliance Consultants. Examples of these documents include the signature page from the annual agreement, the local wellness responsibility document and the attestation form. These documents may also be uploaded, but will not be approved until the original hard copy document is received.

The free and reduced-price (F&R price) meal application is also a checklist item that must be approved by the NCDPI School Nutrition Services (Katie Chatman or Sydnee Wheeler) prior to printing or distributing to households and before the on-line renewal application may be approved. An e-mail is sent to the SFA when the F&R price meal application has been approved with a PDF version of the document. The PDF version should be uploaded as attachment in the SNTS.

All waivers must be approved by Dr. Harvey; these may be attached in the SNTS (be sure to sign the waiver request that is attached). All other documents, such as the edit check, verification plan, snack roster, etc. may be uploaded by the SFA and approved by the Regional Consultant. Upload of documents expedites the application approval process and retains documents for easy access during technical assistance or administrative reviews. Uploaded documents also save space and reduce use of paper.

If you have questions about which documents to upload for the Checklist Summary, contact your Regional Consultant for assistance.

Farm to School Grant Survey

There are many leaders throughout North Carolina with farm to school information and resources; however there is currently no specific place for North Carolina educators, parents, or child care agencies to share or procure that information. The North Carolina Farm to School Coalition is working to develop a county by county directory of farm to school leaders (both individuals and organizations) and farm to school activities currently conducted in the state of North Carolina, with the support from the USDA Farm to School Grant Program. We would like your help in identifying these invaluable community resources.

During the Spring of 2014, seven stakeholder meetings were hosted around the state. Nearly 100 individuals participated in conversation about the status of farm to school in NC, as well as possible directions going forward. All of this information will be used to guide the three deliverables listed above. If you were not able to attend, or know someone who was not able to attend, please consider forwarding a link to an online survey that will give folks a chance to provide input and perspective.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RD92B97>

Even if you have already participated in a meeting, but have something new to share, please use the link! Forward to any and all who could help move the state forward on the three items listed above.

This survey will remain open until **Friday, July 25th**. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tracey Bates at tracey.bates@dpi.nc.gov.

Thank you for your help and participation!

Continuing Education Opportunities

Please take advantage of these webinars, courses, and workshops:

▶ ***HACCP Commercial Kitchen Continuing Education Webinar***

Register and join our webinar on Tuesday, July 22 at 9:00 AM to learn more about the changes.

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/813736033>

▶ ***Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Priced Meals Webinars***

Please join us as we provide training on determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals on July 22, 2014 at 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm OR on August 6, 2014 at 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Any School Nutrition staff may attend, however the training is specifically designed for School Nutrition Administrators and staff that are involved in the processing of free and reduced-price meal applications. To join the webinar, please register at the links below.

REMEMBER: If your district is implementing the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) in **all** schools and the Free & Reduced-Price School Meal applications and/or other eligibility determinations will not be processed by the SFA, then you are not required to attend the webinar. You are of course welcome to attend the training for information purposes.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Only the SFAs that will implement CEP in all of their schools are not required to attend the webinar. SFAs implementing CEP in some of the schools in the district, but not all, or not implementing CEP at all should plan to attend the webinar.

- **Tuesday, July 22, 2014**

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/438455128>

- **Wednesday, August 6, 2014**

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/860808929>

▶ ***NutriKids Webinar: What's New for NC users***

Refer to June 30, 2014 email from NutriKids to NC users for links to the following webinars.

[July 22 at 1:30pm Eastern Time](#)

[July 28 at 9am Eastern Time](#)

If you have any questions please call NUTRIKIDS Menu Planning Support at 800.724.9853 option 6, and then option 3.

► **Smart Options - Teach the Leader**

This workshop is tentatively planned for August 4 from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Raleigh vicinity. Watch for the registration announcement that will be sent from McKimmon Center soon. The workshop will offer the information and resources required for teaching *Smart Options: School Meals Make a Difference in NC*, an approved School Nutrition Association (SNA) certification course. *Smart Options*, from the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, School Nutrition Services, is a continuing education course tailored for school nutrition professionals in North Carolina that covers nutrition and physical activity guidelines, school nutrition regulations, methods for serving quality school meals, strategies for linking the cafeteria to the classroom with nutrition education, ways to market school meals, and school wellness. Smart Options was developed with assistance and review from an advisory committee of school nutrition administrators from across North Carolina. The curriculum is tailored to our state and features local school success stories.

► **Fuel Up to Win the Race to the Top: A School Nutrition E-learning Course**

We are excited to provide an online learning opportunity for School Nutrition Administrators and staff. Visit <http://ncsnel.org/> and log on with your name and email address to access a variety of important continuing education topics such as meal pattern, offer versus serve, merchandising, food preparation, production records and more! Remember to print the certificates as you complete each module to file for professional development or continuing education credits for the School Nutrition Association certification.

Summer Palooza! 2015 NC Summer Nutrition Planning

The NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is convening a series of three regional planning events around the state. You are invited to attend. There is no cost to attend; lunch is provided. Each planning is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For additional details please visit: <http://eepurl.com/YZzhn>

RSVP: To register, please click on the event date/location you're interested in attending.

- **November 18, 2014 - Hickory, NC** (Tuesday)

Hickory Metro Convention Center

<http://nokidhungry.us7.list->

[manage.com/track/click?u=b1c80c84bc69a93d02637641b&id=67b93abb66&e=7da2fa0a81](http://nokidhungry.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b1c80c84bc69a93d02637641b&id=67b93abb66&e=7da2fa0a81)

- **November 19, 2014 - Greensboro, NC** (Wednesday)

Deep River Event Center

<http://nokidhungry.us7.list->

[manage.com/track/click?u=b1c80c84bc69a93d02637641b&id=f5363fe556&e=7da2fa0a81](http://nokidhungry.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b1c80c84bc69a93d02637641b&id=f5363fe556&e=7da2fa0a81)

- **November 20, 2014 - New Bern, NC** (Thursday)

New Bern Convention Center

<http://nokidhungry.us7.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=b1c80c84bc69a93d02637641b&id=e50c399ab0&e=7da2fa0a81>

What's New on the Web?

2014-15 Agreements

<http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/agreements>

HACCP Plan Templates

<http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/information-resources/haccp-food-safety/commercial-kitchen/commercial-kitchen>

HACCP - Links to Supplemental Information

<http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/information-resources/haccp-food-safety/commercial-kitchen/links-to-supplemental-information/links-to-supplemental-information>

Annual School Nutrition Administrator Conference

The Annual School Nutrition Administrator Conference will be held on October 22-24, 2014 at the Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center, 4700 Emperor Blvd., Durham, NC. Additional information will be forthcoming by September.

Mark Your Calendar

August 4	Smart Options Teach the Leader (McKimmon Center)
August 10 (Sunday)	Deadline for Submitting Claim for Reimbursement (for July 2014)
August 30	Deadline for Healthier US School Challenge Application
September 4	Region 1 Policy Update
September 9	Region 7 Policy Update
September 10 (Wednesday)	Deadline for Submitting Claim for Reimbursement (for August 2014)
September 10	Region 3 Policy Update for Charter Schools/RCCIs
September 11	Region 2 Policy Update
September 12	Region 5 Policy Update
September 12	Region 6 Policy Update
September 15 (Monday)	Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Deadline (for August 2014)
September 18	Region 3 Policy Update for LEAs
September 18	Region 4 Policy Update

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Under the Federal Child Nutrition Program and USDA policy, discrimination is prohibited under the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complain Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html , or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program_intake@usda.gov . Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."