

North Carolina

Child Nutrition Weekly Update



Week of April 28 – May 2, 2014

Issue No. 2014.4-3

New this Week

- *NC to Receive Additional Funds for Equipment Assistance Grants*
- *USDA Food Safety Tips for States in the South and Midwest Affected by Severe Storms*
- *NEW Direct Certification and Verification (DCV) Application*
- *“Fed Up” Feature Length Documentary by Katie Couric and Laurie David*
- *USDA Policy Memos (10 Attachments)*
- *Grant Opportunity – 2014-15 School Grants for Healthy Kids*
- *What’s New on the Web?*
- *Revised Timeline for NC's Selection and Announcement of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Schools for School Year 2014-2015*
- *Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) Course Registration*
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- *Vacancy Announcement – Gaston County Schools [1 Attachment]*
- *Mark Your Calendar*

NC to Receive Additional Funds for Equipment Assistance Grants

Last week, the Child Nutrition Services Section was notified that it will receive \$1,165,000 in Federal funds to distribute to SFAs based on the submission of competitive applications. As indicated in the attached USDA Policy Memorandum, these funds are intended to allow SFAs to purchase equipment to serve healthier meals that meet the updated meal patterns, with emphasis on more fruits and vegetables in school meals, improved food safety and expanded access to school meals for all students.

At this time, we have been advised that priority for grant funding must be given to high need schools (schools in underserved areas, schools with limited access to other resources and the age of food service equipment to be replaced. High need is defined as 50% of more students enrolled are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Preference will be given to those schools that choose to participate in the Community Eligibility Program.

SFAs that have been issued a waiver from the paid lunch equity requirement will not be eligible for these grants since their operating balance exceeds three months which suggests the capacity to make equipment purchases with available funds.

The section is currently working to develop the application and guidance for the application process which must be approved by the USDA prior to distribution. As with previous Equipment Assistance Grants, we will require the SFA to submit a quote of formal bid (as a result of an Invitation for Bid) based on the SFA's small purchase threshold. Now is a good time to document the SFA's small purchase threshold so you will be prepared to release an IFB (if required) or obtain a formal quote. Please also begin to consider which school(s) within your SFA may qualify for a grant. While the Equipment Assistance Grants will be competitive, we will take all reasonable efforts to disperse these funds as equitably as possible throughout the state.

Once the USDA approves our State application and grant award process, we will release the applications to all SFAs.

Good Luck!

sp-36-2014.pdf

USDA Food Safety Tips for States in the South and Midwest Affected by Severe Storms

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is issuing food safety recommendations for states affected by a powerful storm system that moved through the South and Midwest on Sunday, spawning several tornadoes in Arkansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri.

For more information and details visit:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/newsroom/news-releases-statements-transcripts/news-release-archives-by-year/archive/2014/nr-042814-01>

NEW Direct Certification and Verification (DCV) Application

Effective July 1st, 2014, the new DCV application will be online and ready for the School Food Authorities (SFAs) to begin the school year with what we're anticipating to be the largest amount of student matches ever. Not only should the SFAs see a larger amount of automatic DC matches but the new process of manual matches has been greatly improved. In order for the SFA to be prepared for the new DCV application two hour webinar training has been planned for each Region. Approximately 1.5 hours of training will cover the introduction of the application, finding the latest matches, downloading the latest matches, and the process of manual matches. The last 30 minutes of the webinar will be directed more toward the Directors/Administrators. With this new application the process of adding new users will be assigned to the Director/Administrator role. This will improve the efficiency of new User access approval as well as disabling Users when the time is appropriate.

The training dates for the individual Regions are:

5/20	9:00am – 11:00am 2:00pm – 4:00pm	Region 1 Training Region 2 Training
5/22	9:00am – 11:00am 2:00pm – 4:00pm	Region 5 Training Region 4 Training
5/27	9:00am – 11:00am 2:00pm – 4:00pm	Region 3 Training Region 6 Training
5/29	9:00am – 11:00am 2:00pm – 4:00pm	Region 7 Training Region 8 Training

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Merritt at 919-807-3515.

“Fed Up” Feature Length Documentary by Katie Couric and Laurie David

We have recently been notified about a feature length documentary on the topic of childhood obesity, entitled [“Fed Up”](#). The film is produced by Katie Couric and Laurie David, known for producing Oscar winning “An Inconvenient Truth.” Fed Up is opening in select theaters nationwide and through video on demand starting on May 9. Details and the trailer can be found at <http://fedupmovie.com/>.

The film, which is highly critical of the food industry, contains a 10 minute segment that negatively portrays foods and beverages sold in schools (some of the visuals are of competitive food choices). While the film does outline the meal pattern changes, it rehashes the “pizza is a vegetable” controversy, quotes a student saying “it doesn’t look like the choices have improved,” and does not mention that upcoming competitive food standards will ensure the candy, soda and high fat/calorie foods pictured in the film are not sold in school stores.

In January, the School Nutrition Association (SNA) reached out to set the record straight regarding the healthy meals being served in school. Fed Up’s promoters are contacting school administrators to request that they host school screenings of the film, and SNA has provided extensive feedback encouraging that these

screenings promote informed discussions about ongoing efforts to promote healthy school environments.

Below are talking points and a sample letter you may send your district communications team and administrators should you wish to do so. If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Healthy Regards,

Lynn

TALKING POINTS

- Schools nationwide and in North Carolina are offering students a variety of healthy, appealing meal options in the school nutrition programs.
- New federal nutrition standards limit the calories, saturated and trans fats, and sodium in school meals, and require cafeterias to offer a wider variety and larger servings of fruits, vegetables and whole grains.
 - *Provide examples of menu improvements and healthy offerings from your meal program.*
 - *You can also refer critics to school meal success stories found at www.TrayTalk.org, www.Facebook.com/TrayTalk, www.facebook.com/SchoolMealsThatRock and www.healthyschoolfoodsnow.org/school-food-success-stories/.*
- Whether school meals are prepared from scratch in the cafeteria or with pre-prepared items, all meals must meet these federal nutrition standards.
- Food companies have been providing healthier choices to school nutrition programs for years, and have adjusted their recipes to meet the new standards.
 - *Fed Up* put a spotlight on pizza, but the pizza served with in school nutrition programs is not the same pizza. School pizzas are made to specifications that include a whole grain crust, low fat cheese, reduced sodium sauce and served with sides of fruits and vegetables – far different from the options available in fast food counterparts.
 - Calorie limits on school meals ensure that pre-prepared foods, and those made from scratch, must limit added sugars.
- Many of the school foods pictured in *Fed Up* were sold in school stores and as la carte items. Starting this fall, new nutrition standards for these “competitive foods” go into effect. Candy, soda, and high fat, high calorie foods will no longer be for sale in school during the school day.
- *Fed Up* should be encouraging students to learn more about healthy options at school and how they can get involved in supporting ongoing positive changes in the cafeteria.
- Schools across the country are working hard to encourage students to adopt healthier lifestyles.
 - *Provide examples of efforts in your school district (eg creative recipes, student taste*

tests, farm to school programs, nutrition education initiatives).

SAMPLE LETTER TO ADMINISTRATORS

Dear xx,

I'm writing to inform you of a documentary that will open in select theaters across the nation on May 9. "[Fed Up](#)" is a feature length documentary on the topic of childhood obesity. The film, which is critical of the food industry, contains a ten minute segment that negatively portrays foods and beverages sold in schools.

Since the film is produced by Katie Couric and Laurie David, known for "An Inconvenient Truth," it is likely to earn media coverage and may lead to questions from parents, students and teachers. In conjunction with the release, we've learned that representatives from the film are contacting school administrators across the nation to invite them to show the film in the classroom.

We ask that if you are contacted about the film and decide to show it in the district, you give us the opportunity to provide you and film viewers with information about our school meals, which meet strict federal nutrition standards, and our ongoing efforts to improve menus and promote healthy choices for our students. Childhood obesity is of serious concern to all of us. Parents deserve to know that they can feel good about the choices in our cafeterias.

Please let me know how we can best assist you.

Sincerely,

xxx

USDA Policy Memos

SP 33-2014

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP): Pilot for Canned, Frozen and Dried Fruits and Vegetables - Request for Application Guidance and Procedures for Selection of States and Schools

Issue date: April 7, 2014

This memorandum is a request for application and sets forth the guidance and procedures for interested State agencies to be considered for participation in the Fruit and Vegetable Pilot which will take place during the 2014-2015 School Year (SY). The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is permitting all States to apply to be considered for participation. State agencies must submit an application no later than June 15, 2014, to be considered for selection.

[sp-33-2014.pdf](#)

SP 34-2014

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP): Allocation of Funds for School Year (SY) 2014-2015

Issue date: April 16, 2014

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, under Section 19 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA), has been a nationwide program since 2008 and operates in selected elementary schools in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide funding allocation amounts for all State agencies for SY 2014-2015; to provide information on funding requirements and deadlines; and to serve as a reminder of important program requirements.

[sp-34-2014.pdf](#)

SP 35-2014

Grain Entrees Related to the Smart Snacks in School Standards

Issue date: April 17, 2014

The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify the status of grain-only items as entrées under the Interim Final Rule titled “National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP): Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010,” also known as the Smart Snacks in School rule.

[sp-35-2014.pdf](#)

SP 36-2014

Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards and Exempt Fundraisers

Issue date: April 17, 2014

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance regarding State agency responsibilities to establish limitations on the frequency of specially exempted fundraisers in schools. Section 10 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 USC 1779, as amended by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA), requires that all food sold outside of the school meal programs, on the school campus and at any time during the school day must meet the nutrition standards set forth in the interim final rule titled “National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010”. This interim final rule, also known as the “Smart Snacks” rule, was published on June 28, 2013 and is effective on July 1, 2014. As USDA continues to move forward with implementation of Smart Snacks, State agencies are reminded to advise their respective schools that these standards will take effect this coming school year.

[sp-36-2014.pdf](#)

SP 37-2014

Fiscal Year 2014 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grants for School Food Authorities

Issue date: April 18, 2014

The purpose of this memorandum is to distribute funding allocations in the amount of \$25 million provided by the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Agriculture Appropriations Act to State agencies that will competitively award equipment assistance

grants to eligible school food authorities (SFA) participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). This memorandum also provides guidance on the specific terms and conditions for these grants, period of performance and timeline, funding goals, and reporting requirements.

These funds will allow SFAs to purchase equipment to serve healthier meals that meet the updated meal patterns, with emphasis on more fruits and vegetables in school meals, improve food safety, and expand access.

[sp-37-2014.pdf](#)

SP 38-2014

Area Eligibility Using Census Data

Issue date: April 21, 2014

The purpose of this memorandum is to allow additional flexibility in using census data for area eligibility determinations in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), and the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Summer Seamless Option (SSO). These additional flexibilities are effective immediately.

[sp-38-2014.pdf](#)

SP 39-2014

2014 Edition of Questions and Answers for the National School Lunch Program's Seamless Summer Option

Issue date: April 21, 2014

This memorandum consolidates the recent policy changes in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) that affect the implementation of the Seamless Summer Option (SSO). This memorandum and its attachment supersede SP-32-2013, *2013 Edition of Questions and Answers for the National School Lunch Program's Seamless Summer Option*.

[sp-39-2014.pdf](#)

SP 40-2014

Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards and Culinary Education Programs

Issue date: April 22, 2014

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance regarding the treatment of culinary education programs that operate in schools participating in the federal school meal programs. Section 10 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (CNA), 42 USC 1779, as amended by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA), requires that all food sold outside of the school meal programs, on the school campus and at any time during the school day must meet the Smart Snacks nutrition standards set forth in the interim final rule titled "National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP): Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as required by the HHFKA of 2010". This interim final rule was published on June 28, 2013 and is effective on July 1, 2014. As the Department of Agriculture (USDA) continues to move forward with implementation of Smart Snacks, State agencies are reminded to advise their respective schools that these standards will take effect this coming school year.

[sp-40-2014.pdf](#)

SP 41-2014

Clarification of the Policy on Food Consumption Outside of Foodservice Area, and the Whole Grain-Rich Requirement

Issue date: April 23, 2014

This memorandum is intended to clarify two issues regarding meals offered under National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). First, the memorandum clarifies the policy of the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) regarding student consumption of certain lunch or breakfast items outside of the foodservice area and meal period. Second, it clarifies the requirement to offer whole grain-rich products in the NSLP and SBP.

[sp-41-2014.pdf](#)

SP 42-2014

Sharing Aggregate Data to Expand Program Access and Services in Child Nutrition Programs

Issue date: April 25, 2014

The purpose of this memorandum is to remind State agencies, school food authorities (SFAs), schools, and sponsoring organizations operating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the School Breakfast Program (SBP), the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) about data sharing requirements and opportunities. This memorandum also includes frequently asked questions regarding data sharing.

[sp-42-2014.pdf](#)

Grant Opportunity – 2014-15 School Grants for Healthy Kids

This is the **last week** for schools to apply for the 2014 -2015 [School Grants for Healthy Kids](#). The grants, funded by our partners CSX Transportation, Kellogg Company, Kellogg's Company Fund (and more), range from \$500 to \$5,000 and are designed to help schools create or expand school breakfast programs, pilot universal breakfast programs or enhance their physical activity programs. Around 1,000 schools will be awarded funds ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 to support school breakfast and physical activity programs. Funded schools will also receive expertise and people power to help implement a successful project that leads to sustainable change. For additional details about the available grants and a list of states for which the grants are available visit: <http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/resources/school-grants>



How to apply webinar:

Interested schools were invited to attend a webinar (held March 20, 2014) to learn more about the available grant opportunities for 2014-2015 and receive tips for applying. **NOTE:** The webinar was recorded and archived at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z94NaQbSJJk&feature=youtu.be>

What's New on the Web?

Child Nutrition Weekly Update Page Restructured

The Child Nutrition Weekly Update (CNWU) page has been restructured and updated. Each CN Weekly Update along with all of the corresponding attachments is available for download beginning with the January

2014 issues. For convenience and to conserve file space all of the attachments for each month have been compressed and housed in a zip file (see diagram below). Instructions for opening and extracting documents from the zip file are below. NOTE: An archive folder of the 2013 CNWUs will be added soon.



ZIP File Instructions

To unzip a file using Windows XP, Windows Vista or Windows 7:

- Double-click on the zip folder with the zipped file inside. A window should pop up with the file or files inside.
- Select the "Extract All Files" button.

- An extraction wizard appears that walks users through the process of extracting a zip file.
- By default, XP, Vista and Windows 7 will extract the files to a folder that has the same name and stored in the same location as the zip folder. You have the option to specify a different location by selecting the "Browse" button.
- Select "Extract".
- The zipped files will be extracted to a specified location.

To unzip a file using a Mac:

Download the zipped file and double click on it. The file automatically opens.

Revised Timeline for NC's Selection and Announcement of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Schools for School Year 2014-2015

Instead of May 2014, it will be June 2014 when the NCDPI announces NC's elementary schools selected to participate in the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FF&VP) for School Year 2014-2015. This schedule change is due to an unanticipated delay in the USDA posting each state's respective FF&VP allocation for School Year 2014-2015.

Once the USDA informs the NCDPI Child Nutrition Services Section of NC's annual FF&VP allocation, as many schools as possible will be selected to participate in the program. The NC State Board of Education will review, approve, and vote on the selected FF&VP schools at their June 2014 Board Meeting scheduled the first week of June. The selected schools will be announced immediately.

The NCDPI Child Nutrition Services apologizes for any inconvenience along with the extended wait to learn of the selected schools.

Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) Course Registration

NC Safe Plate is a new CFPM course developed jointly by School Nutrition Services Section and North Carolina State University Co-operative Extension. The course will provide instruction and an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited CFPM examination for the Person in Charge (PIC) of a food

establishment as specified in Paragraphs 2-102.12(A) and Section 2-102.20 of the NC Food Code Manual.

This course with examination will initially be offered free of charge to a limited number of PIC (i.e. school nutrition managers) as a pilot project on the dates listed below. Participants will be responsible for all related expenses of travel, lodging, meals, and snacks. The two-day course will be taught from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm each day at the locations below. The first day includes instruction based on real world case studies, hands on practice, and discussions to share and learn from everyone’s experience and expertise. The second day continues the lessons followed by a review session and the accredited certifying examination. Class size is limited to 20 participants and available only to PICs who are not currently certified or whose certification expires by August 31, 2014.

Please register online at the link below, selecting the dates and locations that fit your schedule.

<http://projects.cals.ncsu.edu/fbns/foodsafety/nc-safe-plates-ncdpi/>

Date	Location
May 12-13	Scotland County Co-operative Extension 231 E Cronly St., Laurinburg, NC 28352
May 19-20	Northampton County Co-operative Extension 9495 NC 305 Hwy, Jackson, NC 27845
May 27-28	Lee County Co-operative Extension 2420 Tramway Rd., Sanford, NC 27332-9174
June 9-10	Haywood County Co-operative Extension 589 Raccoon Rd., Waynesville, NC 28786
June 12-13	Caldwell County Public Library 120 Hospital Avenue, Lenoir, NC 28645
June 16-17	Koury Convention Center Greensboro, NC
June 30 - July 1	Granville County Co-operative Extension 208 Wall St., Oxford, NC 27565
July 17-18	Duplin County Co-operative Extension 165 Agriculture Drive, Kenansville, NC 28349
July 21-22	Rowan County Co-operative Extension 2727 Old Concord Rd., Salisbury, NC 28146
Aug 11-12	Pitt County Co-operative Extension 403 Government Circle, Greenville, NC 27834

SUDIA Summer Meals Grant Application

To qualify, SFA’s must meet the following grant guidelines:

1. School District must be hosting the summer feeding program. They can have other sites (i.e., churches,

boys and girls clubs, camps, etc.), but district must be supplying the meals.

2. Funding is available for new sites/programs only. Districts with previous summer feeding programs must be expanding the program by adding sites, not just number of days/students.
3. District must be able to use purchased equipment during the school year, not just summer feeding- for example, carts and cooler bags for EB or Afterschool snacks.

Please submit your completed applications by June 1, 2014, to: Debbie McKenzie, Southeast United Dairy Industry Association (SUDIA): via email: dmckenzie@sedairy.org, or fax: 919.882.9514. Questions? Email or call Debbie at 919.621.7267

sudia app.doc

SP 28-2014 – Paid Lunch Equity: Guidance for School Year 2014-15

USDA has released the requirements that must be met by the School Food Authority (SFA) in order for the State Agency (SA) to approve a waiver from the Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) for the SY 2014-2015. The requirements are included in the attached policy memo SP 28-2014 which was released on March 20, 2014.

In order for the SA to approve a waiver, the SFA must have a minimum of three months operating balance and meet several other qualifications. The other qualifications have been included in the "PLE Waiver" document attached. A completed "PLE Waiver" and official letter must be submitted to the SA.

The SA will officially notify the SFA upon approval or denial of the waiver request. If the SA is unable to approve the waiver, the SFA will be required to increase the paid lunch prices or receive non-federal funds in lieu of based on the completed SY 14-15 PLE tool.

Any questions regarding the PLE Waiver should be submitted to Janet Johnson at janet.williamsjohnson@dpi.nc.gov

sp-28-2014.pdf (Paid Lunch Equity: Guidance for School Year 2014-15)
ple waiver.docx

SP 29-2014 – School Breakfast and Smart Snacks Waivers

USDA recently released policy memo SP 29-2014 to notify State Agencies (SA) and School Food Authorities (SFAs) that there will be no waivers for the School Breakfast (SBP) and Smart Snack requirements that become effective July 1, 2014. The Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2014 (P.L 113-76) included language that directed the USDA to establish a process that would allow State agencies to grant waivers for the 2014-2015 School to any local education agency (LEAs) unable to implement the forthcoming Smart Snack interim final

rule and/or SBP requirements without incurring increased costs. USDA's Office of the General Counsel has confirmed that the USDA is prohibited by Federal law from waiving these regulations or authorizing State agencies to grant waivers.

Please continue to prepare for the implementation of both the breakfast changes and Smart Snack requirements that go into effect July 1, 2014.

[sp-29-2014.pdf](#) - Consolidated Appropriations Act Report Language on Waivers for School Breakfast and Smart Snacks

Vacancy Announcement – Gaston County Schools

SFA Name: Gaston County Schools
Position Title: School Nutrition Area Coordinator
Closing: Open until filled.

How to Apply: See the attached vacancy announcement for application instructions and additional details about the position.

[gaston area coordinator.pdf](#)

Mark Your Calendar

May 2 School Lunch Hero Day
May 5-9 School Nutrition Employee Week
**May 10 (Sunday) Deadline for Submitting Claim for Reimbursement (for April 2014)
May 15 (Thursday) Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Deadline (for April 2014)
May 26 Memorial Day (State Offices Closed)
June 10 (Tuesday) Deadline for Submitting Claim for Reimbursement (for May 2014)
**June 15 (Sunday) Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Deadline (for May 2014)
June 18-19, 2014 SNA-NC Annual Conference (Koury Convention Center, Greensboro, NC)

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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 Complaint 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."