

North Carolina

# School Nutrition Weekly Update

March 18, 2015

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## ***Notification of and Management of Equipment Assistance Grant Funds***

The deadline has now passed for submitting Equipment Assistance Grant Applications/Proposals for SY 2015-16. So what happens next? The following outlines the process for selection and approval of grantees, and subsequent management of EAG funds.

The state agency has assembled a selection committee that will review all Equipment Assistance Grant Applications/Proposals as follows:

- The applications/proposals will be scored based on the criteria listed on the [EAG Announcement Letter](#).
- Applications/Proposals receiving the highest total scores will be ranked by score and available funds will be allocated to the Applications/Proposals receiving the highest scores.
- All reasonable efforts will be made to distribute funds equitably based on district size and geographic location.
- The State Board of Education (SBE) will approve the final grant awards during the May 2015 SBE meeting.
- Approved SFAs will be notified of their grant award(s) and grant funds will be transferred to the SFAs no later than **May 30, 2015**.
- SFAs should be prepared to expend the grant funds, in their entirety, by **September 1, 2015**.
- A final report of expenditures will be due to the NCDPI by **September 15, 2015**. If the entire amount of the grant is not expended, remaining funds must be returned to NCDPI.

If you have any questions please contact Tara Tyson ([tara.tyson@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:tara.tyson@dpi.nc.gov)), Stephanie Tatum ([Stephanie.tatum@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Stephanie.tatum@dpi.nc.gov)) or Jacquelyn McGowan ([Jacquelyn.mcgowan@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Jacquelyn.mcgowan@dpi.nc.gov)).

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## ***Tip Sheet for Accepting Processed Product Documentation***

Child Nutrition (CN) Labels, Product Formulation Statements, and Product Labels provide a way for food manufacturers to communicate with school program operators about how their products may contribute to the meal pattern requirements for meals served under the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child Nutrition programs. This sheet provides tips for acceptable documentation using CN Labels and Product Formulation Statements. Please contact your Regional Consultants or Nutrition Specialists if you have questions.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view/download the Tip Sheet.

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## ***Contact Information for Migrant Education Programs***

When processing Free and Reduced Price School Meal Applications, School Food Authorities (SFA) may find it necessary to contact Migrant Coordinators to determine if a student is on a migrant listing. Only twenty-nine (29) of Traditional Public School systems have a Migrant Education Recruiter/Coordinator/Director, which means that the majority of the School Food Authorities (SFAs) do not have an onsite contact.

Sonja Williams, the Migrant Education Program Administrator with North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, has shared her list of the contacts for School Nutrition Programs. Please review the list and if your SFA is not listed then you may contact one of the three (3) Regional Recruiters listed at the bottom of the spreadsheet for information or you may contact Sonja Williams via email at [sonja.williams@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:sonja.williams@dpi.nc.gov) or via phone at 919-807-3958. [CLICK HERE](#) for list of Migrant Contacts.

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## ***Professional Standards for State and Local School Nutrition Programs Personnel as Required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010***

This final rule establishes minimum professional standards for school nutrition personnel who manage and operate the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. The final rule institutes hiring standards for the selection of State and local school nutrition program directors, and requires all personnel in the school nutrition programs to complete annual continuing education (CE). These regulations are expected to result in consistent, national professional standards that strengthen the ability of school nutrition professionals and staff to perform their duties effectively and efficiently. [CLICK HERE](#) to View/Download the Summary of Annual Continuing Education Requirements for School Nutrition Personnel.

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## ***Survey of Need: Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) Courses and Examinations***

On September 1, 2012, the North Carolina Commission for Public Health adopted the 2009 FDA Food Code by reference with certain amendments, additions, and deletions. As of January 1, 2014 existing FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS without a PERSON IN CHARGE (PIC) who is a CFPM may be assessed two points on their inspection for failure to meet the Food Code requirements.

To verify that the PIC has an approved CFPM certification as specified in Paragraphs 2-102.12(A) and Section 2-102.20 of the NC Food Code Manual, the Person in Charge must have successfully passed an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited CFPM examination. In some instances a PIC may be very

knowledgeable about food safety and only need to re-certify by taking the examination. In other instances, a PIC may need to participate in continuing education prior to taking the CFPM examination to be successful.

To better gauge the needs of your School Food Authority and to make plans for helping you meet the Food Code requirements, please respond to the survey at the link below by April 6, 2015:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CFPM2015Assessment>

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## ***North Carolina – Team Up for School Health and Wellness***

Action for Healthy Kids has partnered with seven other North Carolina-based sponsors to provide an interactive workshop on Thursday, March 19, 2015. The workshop will be held at Smoky Mountain High School in Sylva, NC. The focus will be on school health and wellness with emphasis on building and strengthening school health teams. For more information and registration details visit:

<http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/component/events/event/271>.

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## ***In the Spotlight***

North Carolina has the best School Food Authorities in the nation. To show our appreciation for all that you do, we have decided to showcase your accomplishments on our website. We encourage you to share articles, photos, descriptions, etc., that demonstrate your innovative ideas and activities to support the various School Nutrition programs and ultimately the children of North Carolina. Don't be shy. Your SFA will appear will appear in the SN Spotlight in the weeks and months to come.

You may forward information to your Regional Consultant or to Donna Knight at [donna.knight@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:donna.knight@dpi.nc.gov).

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## ***What's New on the Web?***

- **Grant Opportunities Section**

A new central location has been developed on Award & Recognition Opportunities page of the website. As we receive information about grants we will continue to notify you via the SN Weekly update, but this page will have a list of all of the grant opportunities that we are aware of in one place along with links to details and web pages. The page has been renamed Awards, Grants and Recognition Opportunities.

**URL:** <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/information-resources/awards-recognition-opportunities>

- **Continuing Education page revision**

You will notice that the Continuing Education page now lists educational events in date order and grouped by the type of event, i.e., conference, webinar or workshop. There will be more enhancements soon.

**URL:** <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/continuing-education>

- **Time as a Public Health Control (TPHC) Powerpoint**

The TPHC Powerpoint and the TPHC Slides handout were recently updated. Both are available to view/download at: <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/information-resources/haccp-food-safety/haccp-continuing-education/time-as-a-public-health-control/time-as-a-public-health-control-tphc>

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## ***NC's FF&VP Application Season Opened February 27...So, What's New for the Process?***

### **How does CEP affect eligibility for the FF&VP for SY 2015-2016?**

It is still a requirement for an elementary school to be 50% or greater Free/Reduced to apply and be selected to participate in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FF&VP). **\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE\*\*** CEP schools will qualify on the individual school's Identified Student Percentage (ISP), not the group's ISP percentage. An elementary school must have an individual ISP of at least 50.0% to apply for the FF&VP.

As in the past, in the School Nutrition Technology System (SNTS)/FF&VP Application Packet component provides a list of eligible elementary schools. The SNTS displays the list of elementary schools that were 50.0% or greater Free/Reduced or ISP based on the October 2014 claim data. The SFA may apply for any or all sites listed.

### **What are the Important Dates?**

#### **Friday, February 27, 2015**

Opening day for North Carolina's FF&VP application season in the SNTS. School Nutrition Administrators with "Application Entry" rights to the SNTS have access to the FF&VP Application Packet to view their respective elementary schools eligible to apply for the FF&VP for SY 2015-2016.

The annual FF&VP application packet complete with information, required forms, [timeline](#) and [checklist](#) was electronically distributed to School Nutrition Administrators

#### **Friday, March 27, 2015 at 11:59 PM**

Deadline for completing and saving a SY 2015-2016 FF&VP application (online) in the SNTS for the eligible elementary schools that wish to apply.

#### **Monday, April 6, 2015 by 5:00 PM**

Deadline for the [FF&VP Signature Page](#) with original, required signatures in **blue** ink to be received in the NCDPI School Nutrition Services Section in Raleigh.

**\*\*\*New Form for the FF&VP Application Process for SY 2015-2016\*\*\***

Monday, April 6, 2015 by 5:00 PM

Deadline for the new FF&VP form: "[Number of Days FF&VP Operates Weekly](#)" to be completed with original required signature in **blue** ink and received in the NCDPI School Nutrition Services Section in Raleigh. One form listing all the applying schools per LEA is acceptable. This new form was included in the electronically distributed FF&VP application packet for SY 2015-2016.

**FFVP Continuing Education Webinars**

Please note the revised dates for the FF&VP required annual continuing education webinars:

**Monday, June 29, 2015, 10-11AM**      *FF&V Program Requirements*

**Tuesday, June 30, 2015, 10-11AM**      *FF&VP Financial Guidance*

Anyone is invited to participate in either webinar. Registration is required. **\*IMPORTANT NOTE\*** FF&VP webinar registration information will be included in the FF&VP selection notification letter from the NCDPI School Nutrition Services Section mailed to School Food Authorities in early June 2015.

Please contact Zoe McKay-Tucker, School Nutrition Specialist at [zoe.mckaytucker@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:zoe.mckaytucker@dpi.nc.gov) or 919-807-3517, if you have questions or need additional assistance.

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**\*\*REMINDER\*\* Whole Grain-Rich Waiver Requests**

In the first two weeks since SFAs were given approval to apply for Whole Grain-Rich Waivers, 25% of North Carolina's SFAs have been approved. Please be reminded that completing and submitting a waiver is an easy procedure. We encourage to you to review the following information about the waiver process from the March 10 SNWU and apply for a waiver.

*The USDA recently authorized State Education Agencies to approve waiver requests that allow SFAs to have flexibility in the use of whole grain-rich products. USDA Policy Memorandum SP 20-2015 is attached for your review.*

*USDA has just notified the department that our waiver review/approval process has been approved. We have attempted to make this process as easy for you as possible. Please read the [Whole Grain Rich Waiver letter](#) that provides specific instructions for successfully completing the process. You will be required to submit the [WGR Waiver Request Form](#) along with supporting documentation to justify your waiver request.*

Should you have questions, please contact your Regional Consultant or Nutrition Specialist. We look forward to working with you to help you achieve the goals of your School Nutrition Program, the heart of which is to offer nutritious, affordable, appealing meals to students.

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**\*\*REMINDER\*\* 2015 USDA Best Practice Awards Deadline**

Monday, **March 30, 2015** is the deadline for submitting Best Practice Awards Nominations. Information, details and the Nomination Entry Forms are available on the School Nutrition website at:

<http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/information-resources/awards-recognition-opportunities>

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**Continuing Education Opportunity Schedule**

*\*NOTE\* Click each title to view/download information and instructions.*

**Webinars**

March 18	<a href="#"><u>2015-16 School Breakfast Grant Opportunities Webinar</u></a>
March 19 & 20	<a href="#"><u>*NEW* FF&amp;VP Round Table Discussion Webinar (1:00 – 2:30 pm)</u></a>
March 20	<a href="#"><u>*NEW* FF&amp;VP Round Table Discussion Webinar (10:00 – 11:30 am)</u></a>
March 24	<a href="#"><u>Every Kid Healthy Grant Opportunities Webinar</u></a>
March 25	<a href="#"><u>School Breakfast: Resources to Increase Participation Webinar</u></a>
March 26	<a href="#"><u>Norovirus: Control Strategies and How to Handle a School-based Outbreak</u></a>

**Workshops**

March 16-18	<a href="#"><u>N.C. Safe Plates</u></a>	Person County
March 19	<a href="#"><u>Team Up for School Health and Wellness</u></a>	Smoky Mountain HS, Sylva, NC
March 23-25	<a href="#"><u>N.C. Safe Plates</u></a>	Stokes County
March 25	<a href="#"><u>Procuring Local Produce</u></a>	Carthage, NC
April 6-8	<a href="#"><u>N.C. Safe Plates</u></a>	Montgomery County
April 13	<a href="#"><u>Procuring Local Produce</u></a>	Greensboro, NC
April 17	<a href="#"><u>Procuring Local Produce</u></a>	Concord, NC
April 20-21	<a href="#"><u>*NEW* SERVSAFE® Serving Safe Food (taught in Spanish)</u></a>	Rowan County Health Department



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If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), found at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](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, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto: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).

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