

School Nutrition Update

April 20, 2018



In this Issue:

- FNS Wants to Hear from You! Hiring Flexibility Proposed Rule
- USDA Policy Memo: SP 12-2018 Paid Lunch Equity: Guidance for School Year 2018-19
- SNA Membership Matters
- Golden Key Achievement Awards
- 2017 Turnip the Beet Award Winners
- 2018 Summer Nutrition Program News for SFA Sponsor
- Continuing Education & Professional Development
 - May 2018 Zone Policy Update Registration
 - School Nutrition Leadership Academy Opportunities
 - NC K-12 Culinary Institute Workshop for School Nutrition Administrators and Supervisors
 - SNA-NC Pre-Conference Workshops
- Mark Your Calendar

FNS Wants to Hear from You! Hiring Flexibility Proposed Rule

On Tuesday March 6, 2018, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) published a Proposed Rule, entitled, Hiring Flexibility Under Professional Standards. This proposed rule would add four flexibilities to the hiring standards for new school nutrition program directors in small local educational agencies (LEAs) and new school nutrition program State directors under the professional standards regulations for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

These proposed changes are expected to expand the pool of candidates qualified to serve as leaders in the school nutrition programs while continuing to ensure that school nutrition professionals are able to perform their duties effectively and efficiently.

The Proposed Rule will be available for public comment through May 7, 2018. Electronic comments are preferred and may be submitted at: <https://www.regulations.gov/>. A Comparison of Hiring Standards from Existing Regulation to Proposed Rule can be found [here](#).

USDA Policy Memo: SP 12-2018 Paid Lunch Equity: Guidance for School Year 2018-19

On Thursday, April 19 USDA released the following communication from concerning the requirement to establish Paid Lunch Equity. As you read the communication, please note that if you have a positive balance in your non-profit School Nutrition account, you ARE NOT REQUIRED to adjust paid meal prices for the coming school year.

Should you have questions, please contact Tara Tyson (tara.tyson@dpi.nc.gov) for assistance. This is good news for School Nutrition Programs across the country and certainly in North Carolina.

FROM THE US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE:

In Section 776 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141) (the Act), Congress provides that only school food authorities (SFAs) that had a negative balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of January 31, 2018, shall be required to establish prices for paid lunches according to the Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) provisions in Section 12(p) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1760(p) and implemented in National School Lunch Program regulations at 7 CFR 210.14(e).

Consistent with the terms of the Act this memorandum provides notice that any SFA with a positive or zero balance in its nonprofit school food service account as of January 31, 2018, is exempt from PLE requirements found at 7 CFR 210.14(e) for school year (SY) 2018-19. SFAs that had a negative balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of January 31, 2018 must follow PLE requirements when establishing their prices for paid lunches in SY 2018-19. Please note, the SY 2018-19 PLE tool and instructions will be provided in a separate communication.

[SP 12-2018 - PDF version](#)

SNA Membership Matters

Although, SNA membership numbers continue to rise, the School Nutrition Association leadership has issued a challenge to current members. Let's break the 60,000 mark in 2018!

Recruit five or more new members by May 31, 2018, as part of the "[SNA Membership Matters](#)" 2017-18 Annual Membership Campaign, and you will automatically be entered into a drawing to win one of five registrations to SNA's 2019 Annual National Conference (ANC). Help make history: Reach out to coworkers and friends in other schools or districts and tell them why you are a proud SNA member! [CLICK HERE to learn More about recruitment.](#)

Golden Key Achievement Awards

The Golden Key Achievement Award program is a set of criteria designed to recognize the great school meal accomplishments in a single school. This award includes recognition for activities that complement current program regulations and best practices. The purpose of the award is to promote benchmarks of excellence across North Carolina and to honor School Nutrition programs maintaining high standards. Participation in this award fosters ongoing professional development and improvement in the school nutrition environment and aligns with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) professional development learning codes.




All entries must be submitted to the School Nutrition office in Raleigh by close of business on April 30, 2018. [CLICK HERE](#) for information about the award and how to submit entries.

2017 Turnip the Beet Award Winners

For the second year, North Carolina Summer Nutrition Sponsors win big in USDA's Turnip the Beet Award. This award recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors who work hard to offer high quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious. In 2017, 111 sponsors from across the country earned Bronze, Silver or Gold Level Turnip the Beet awards. All awardees will receive a certificate and will be featured in USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Summer Newsletter. Gold and Silver awardees will be highlighted in a USDA blog post, and Gold awardees will be identified as Turnip the Beet winners on the [FNS Capacity Builder](#).

Many thanks to state agency staff members, Sarah Hinton, Jennifer Hopkins and Flo Smith, for reviewing the submissions and helping to get them ready to submit to USDA.

Join us in congratulating the 2017 North Carolina's **Turnip the Beet** award winners!

Gold	Silver	Bronze
 Buncombe County Schools Kirk of Kildaire YMCA of Western NC	 Caldwell County Schools Carteret County Schools Johnston County Schools Moore Street Foundation	 Bertie County Schools LMC Children Services, Inc. New Hanover County Schools Wake Forest University Wilson County YMCA of the Triangle

2018 Summer Nutrition Program News for SFA Sponsor

Spring Break means that summer is just around the corner! The Summer Nutrition Team is hard at work preparing for RACE Live trainings and ready to approve your applications. As summer quickly approaches, don't forget these upcoming deadlines.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Sponsor Deadlines:

- April 26 - RACE Live in Hickory (optional)
- May 15 - Online Application Due

Seamless Summer Option (SSO) Sponsor Deadlines:

- April 20 - Online Go-To-Webinar (mandatory)
- May 1 - Online Application Due

Contact your Summer Nutrition Consultant with any questions about upcoming trainings or deadlines.

As you're working hard to organize and coordinate your sites for the summer, don't forget to spend time marketing your program! We want as many children as possible to take advantage of the excellent programs you are running. Visit the Summer Food Service Program Section on the NC Child Nutrition website for new promotion and outreach materials.



Continuing Education & Professional Development

➤ May 2018 Zone Policy Update Registration

The May Policy Update for School Nutrition Administrators is approaching. If you have not already registered, please do so by the deadline at <https://goo.gl/forms/XMuPCfCac0IEeOj13>

Timely registration is especially important so consultants and specialists can coordinate the arrangements for the Team Up work groups and to ensure efficient arrangement of room set up and adequate lunches.

Lunch will be provided for those registering in advance; however, participants are responsible for all additional travel, meals, snacks, coffee, and other beverages.

Tentative agenda topics include: Summer Nutrition Update, required Civil Rights continuing education, Team Up for Leadership, NC K-12 Culinary Institute information, School Nutrition Leadership Academy potential courses for 2018-19, and HACCP Updates.

An evaluation link will be sent after the session and a continuing education certificate for professional development will be provided when the evaluation is completed.

ZONE	DATES	LOCATION	Register By
1	May 4	NC Arboretum 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way Asheville, NC 28806	April 26
2	May 1	Village Inn Event Center 6205 Ramada Drive Clemmons, NC 27012	April 23
3	May 3	Cabarrus Arena & Event Center 4751 NC-49 Concord, NC 28025	April 25
4 (Non- LEA)	May 3	NCSU McKimmon Center 1101 Gorman St Raleigh, NC 27606	April 25
4 (LEA)	May 4	NCSU McKimmon Center 1101 Gorman St Raleigh, NC 27606	April 26
5	May 3	The Country Club of Whispering Pines 2 Clubhouse Blvd. Whispering Pines, NC 28327	April 25
6	May 2	NC TeleCenter 415 East Blvd. Williamston, NC 27892	April 20
7	May 4	New Bern Convention Center 203 S Front St New Bern, NC	April 26

➤ School Nutrition Leadership Academy Opportunities

The NC School Nutrition Leadership Academy offers a variety of professional development activities for School Nutrition Professionals. Refer to our website below and be alert for email announcements from NC State University McKimmon Center announcing workshops. Be sure to keep the School Nutrition Administrator contact information updated in the School Nutrition Technology System as this is the information used to send email notifications.

<https://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/continuing-education/sn-leadership-acad>

June 11-13	NC Safe Plates	Goldsboro
June 13-15	NC Safe Plates	Wilmington
June 14-15	Nutrition Level 1: Smart Options	Greenville
June 18-19	The Administrative Review - An approach to collaborative compliance	Greensboro
June 19	Smart Options: Teach the Leader	Greensboro
June 18-20	NC Safe Plates	Greensboro

June 20-22	NC Safe Plates	Kenansville
August 13-15	NC Safe Plates	Wilson

➤ NC K-12 Culinary Institute Workshop for School Nutrition Administrators and Supervisors

As part of the planned NC K-12 Culinary Workshops for 2018, two sessions have been scheduled which will allow administrators, supervisors, and menu planners working at the central office level of the School Food Authority (SFA) the opportunity to participate in food preparation techniques being taught to managers and training managers during Summer 2018. *Please Note* These two sessions are NOT for training managers or school level managers. [CLICK HERE](#) for additional information and registration information for the sessions during June 26-27 or June 28-29.

➤ SNA-NC Pre-Conference Workshops

NCDPI will offer several workshops prior to the SNA-NC Annual Conference in June. See below for the offerings and registration information.

Date	Course Title & Registration Link
June 18-19	The Administrative Review: An Approach to Collaborative Compliance
June 18-19	New Manager Workshop
June 18-20	NC Safe Plates
June 19	Smart Options: Teach the Leader

Mark Your Calendar

April 2018

Apr 30 3rd Quarterly Financial Analysis Worksheet Due - *Traditional Public School SFAs only*

May 2018

May 4 [School Lunch Hero Day](#)

- May 9 NCPA New Distributor Bid Opening (McKimmon Center)
- May 7-11 [School Nutrition Employee Week](#)
- May 10 Deadline to submit Claims for Reimbursement for NSLP/SBP/ASSP/SFSP/SSP (for Apr 2018)
- May 15 Deadline to submit Claims for Reimbursement for FFVP (for Apr 2018)
- May 28 Memorial Day (State Offices Closed)

**NOTE! Anytime a deadline falls on a weekend or a holiday the actual deadline is extended to the next business day.*

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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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