

North Carolina

School Nutrition Weekly Update

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2015-2016 SY Reimbursement Rates

The [2015-16 School Meals Reimbursement Rates](#) have been published and are available on the School Nutrition website. The rates are available on the USDA website at: [http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/rates-reimbursement.](http://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/rates-reimbursement)

Menu Templates

The [Menu Templates](#) for the start of the new school year are now available. They can be accessed from the Nutrition Education resources section on the NCDPI, School Nutrition Services website.

Please note the following:

- Menu Templates have been posted for August 2015 through January 2016.
- The Menu Templates were designed for both the Elementary and Middle/High audiences. The content for the Elementary School Menus is aimed at families and the content for the Middle/High School Menus is aimed at Middle/High School students.
- By request, the Menu Template layout has been revised to fit within one page with fewer graphics.
- The menus are provided in two file formats, PDF and MS Publisher which will allow for customization by local School Nutrition programs.

Please do not hesitate to contact Tracey Bates, School Nutrition Services Section, NCDPI, tracey.bates@dpi.nc.gov, with any questions regarding the nutrition education resources for schools.

Updated Daily Meal Production Records – SY 2015-16

The breakfast and lunch Daily Meal Production Record templates and supporting documents for Commercial Kitchen, Homestyle Meals and Transported Meals have all been updated for the 2015-16 SY. Those documents are posted on the [Daily Meal Production Records – SY 2015-16](#) page (see link on the Menu Planning & Production section) of the School Nutrition website.

RECALL NOTICE - Aspen Foods Recalls Frozen, Raw, Stuffed & Breaded Chicken Products

The US Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service has announced that Aspen Foods, A Division of Koch Poultry Company, a Chicago, Ill. establishment, is recalling approximately 1,978,680 pounds of frozen, raw, stuffed and breaded chicken product that may be contaminated with *Salmonella* Enteritidis.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view/download the recall notice or access the USDA FSIS website at:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/recalls-and-public-health-alerts/recall-case-archive/archive/2015/recall-101-2015-release>

Sodium Reduction Infographic for School Nutrition Professionals is Now Available

“Team Nutrition is pleased to announce the release of a brand new infographic for School Nutrition Professionals, as part of USDA’s [What’s Shaking? Creative Ways to Boost Flavor With Less Sodium](#) initiative. Schools are making great strides in serving healthy meals with less sodium to children across the nation. Check out this infographic for practical tips, and share with the school nutrition professionals who are making a difference in helping children adopt healthy habits.

This infographic is part of a broader USDA initiative intended to pull together and inspire schools, parents, community members, and partner organizations to reduce sodium in school meals through the *What’s Shaking? Creative Ways to Boost Flavor with Less Sodium* initiative.

For more information on What’s Shaking?, visit <http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/whatsshaking>.”

Policy Memo SP 39-2015 – Questions & Answers on the Final Rule “Professional Standards for State and Local School Nutrition Programs Personnel as Required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010”

[Release date: June 26, 2015]

USDA Policy Memo [SP 39-2015](#) includes many questions submitted by program operators on specific aspects of the regulation. The questions have been grouped under four headings: Hiring Standards, Training Standards, Oversight, Food Service Management Companies, and Miscellaneous. FNS will revise this document as needed to address other questions as they arise during the implementation of professional standards.

Policy Memo SP 03-2015 – Revised – Paid Lunch Equity: School Year 2015-2016 Calculations and Tool [Release date: July 06, 2015]

USDA Policy Memo [SP 03-2015](#) was initially issued on October 8, 2014 and provided guidance on the calculations SFAs must make in order to ensure they are in compliance with the requirements in the regulations at 7 CFR 210.14(e) for SY 2015-16 with the Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) tool attached. Since then several errors associated with the [SY 2015-16 PLE Tool](#) have been reported. A corrected version of the PLE Tool is being reissued with this memorandum to assist SFAs still in the process of completing PLE calculations for SY 2015-2016.

Policy Memo SP 10-2014 (v.3) – Smoothies Offered in Child Nutrition Revised [Release date: July 22, 2015]

USDA Policy Memo [SP 10-2014 \(v.3\)](#) is version 3 of this memorandum and clarifies that vegetables and yogurt used in smoothies may credit towards meeting the snack meal pattern requirements. As fruit, vegetable, milk, and yogurt smoothies are an increasingly common food item in the Child Nutrition Programs (CNP), the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has modified the guidance on smoothies to allow for the crediting of vegetables and yogurt in smoothies at any meal or snack offered through the CNPs, including supper for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). These additional ingredients provide variety to program operators seeking to include appealing and nutritious smoothies on their menus. This memorandum replaces previous guidance on smoothies.

USDA School Nutrition Environment and Wellness Resources

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA) requires all local educational agencies (LEAs) participating in federal Child Nutrition programs to establish and implement, for all schools under its jurisdiction, local school wellness policies that meet minimum standards designed to promote sound nutrition, student health, reduce childhood obesity, and provide transparency to the public on the school nutrition environment.

Looking for local wellness policy resources? USDA has created a website dedicated to helping local educational agencies find the resources they need to meet wellness policy recommendations and requirements. Find these resources at <http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/school-wellness-resources>.

NFSMI Becomes ICN

Effective July 1, 2015, the National Food Service Management Institute (NFSMI) became the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN). The primary mission of the Institute is to provide child nutrition professionals education, technical assistance, and applied research related to the operation and management of federally funded child nutrition programs. The Institute is the only federally funded national center

dedicated to assisting child nutrition professionals in improving the quality and operation of child nutrition programs. The changes to the name and logo align with the mission and vision of the Institute.

In addition to the name change, Dr. Aleshia Hall-Campbell, who led the Institute as Associate Director of Cooperative Agreements for five years, has been appointed Acting Executive Director of the ICN.

The Institute of Child Nutrition is still the leading resource for education, training, and resources, just as the National Food Service Management Institute has been for over 25 years. Visit the new website at <http://www.theicn.org>.

Determining Eligibility - Webinars Scheduled

We invite you to attend a webinar on Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals. The webinar sessions have been scheduled; July 30, 2015 (10a.m.-12p.m.) and August 5, 2015 (2p.m. - 4p.m.). 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. SarAnn Suttles will be the presenter with Jacquelyn McGowan and Karla Wheeler available for questions.

REGISTER for the session of your choice at:

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/rt/1170428296497603586>

Vacancy Announcements

SFA/Location	Position	Information
Hyde County Schools	Child Nutrition Director	<p>CLICK HERE to view/download the vacancy announcement. The APPLICATION for this position should be submitted to:</p> <p>Kelly Brooks, Human Resources Specialist, 1430 Main St. PO Box 217 Swan Quarter, NC 27885 252.926.3281 ext. 3503 kbrooks@gmail.com</p>
Johnston County Schools	Child Nutrition Supervisor	<p>CLICK HERE to view/download the vacancy announcement.</p>

Important School Nutrition Dates

July

July 30 Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Priced Meals – Annual Continuing Education

August

Aug 5 Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Priced Meals – Annual Continuing Education

Aug 10 (Mon) *NSLP/SBP/ASSP* - Deadline to submit claim for reimbursement (for July 2015)

Aug 10 (Mon) *SFSP/SSO* - Deadline to submit claim for reimbursement (for July 2015)

Aug 15 (Sat) *Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Prog* - Deadline to submit claim for reimbursement (for July 2015)

September

Sept 10 (Thurs) *NSLP/SBP/ASSP* - Deadline to submit claim for reimbursement (for Aug 2015)

Sept 10 (Thurs) *SFSP/SSO* - Deadline to submit claim for reimbursement (for Aug 2015)

Sept 15 (Tues) *Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Prog* - Deadline to submit claim for reimbursement (for Aug 2015)

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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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