

North Carolina

# School Nutrition Weekly Update



April 8, 2016

Issue No. 2016.4-1

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## **PROGRAM OPERATIONS NEWS**

### **Annual Agreement Renewal for SY 2016-17**

We are pleased to inform you that we are opening the School Nutrition Technology System on **Monday April 11, 2016** so that School Food Authorities (SFAs) can begin the Annual Agreement renewal process for the 2016-2017 school year. At this time, only one part of the renewal process is available. The online application will be opened so that you can review and update the SFA and site applications.

As you know, there are three main parts included in the agreement renewal process:

- a) Written Agreement;
- b) Approval of Free & Reduced Priced School Meals Household Application (F&RP App);
- c) Completion of the Online Application and submission of any checklist items.

We are currently updating and finalizing all of the documentation for the 2016-2017 school year to reflect any changes in policy or program requirements as required by the USDA or the State Agency. The 2016-2017 Annual Agreement document (along with signature pages and other supporting documents) and the 2016-2017 Free and Reduced Priced Meal Application will be provided to the SFAs soon. In the meantime, please feel free to review the SFA and site applications and make changes as needed. You will not be able to Submit for Approval until all of the appropriate elements are in place to complete the agreement renewal process.

You may access the School Nutrition Technology System at <https://www.ncchildnutrition.org/snp/NcidLogin.aspx> to renew the SFA's Agreement to administer the Federally-funded Child Nutrition Program(s) for the coming year.

If you have any questions, please contact your Zone Consultant.

### **Paid Lunch Equity Tool and Waiver Requests**

#### **Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) Tool**

It is no longer a requirement to upload the PLE worksheet as an attachment to the renewal package. Once your PLE is approved, DPI will automatically upload the attachment to your annual renewal agreement. Please send School Year 2016-17 Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) tools to the attention of Tara Tyson at [tara.tyson@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:tara.tyson@dpi.nc.gov) for State Agency approval.

#### **Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) Waiver Request**

Please submit the PLE waiver requests for school year 2016-2017 to the attention of: Tara Tyson at [Tara.tyson@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:Tara.tyson@dpi.nc.gov) in the Raleigh office. Once the request has been reviewed and approved, the School Food Authority will receive a letter from Dr. Lynn Harvey validating state agency approval.

## Team Up for School Nutrition Success



United States Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Institute of Child Nutrition, has launched a "Team Up" for School Nutrition Success initiative. "Team Up" is intended to be a learning experience providing technical assistance to School Nutrition programs that want to maintain a healthy environment and student meal program participation. Team Up includes strategies for mentoring in a variety of areas using a Skilled Helper Model and SMART goals.

North Carolina's Team Up initiatives will be integrated into Policy Updates over the coming months and will include panel discussions, networking discussions which should promote the generation of ideas for the School Nutrition program improvement in several topic areas. At the May Policy Update, Administrators will be introduced to Team Up, the Skilled Helper and model SMART goals that will be further used at future sessions. Team Up activities will also provide resources and the opportunity for making positive strides towards healthy school environments.

## Q&A – Whole Grain Rich (WGR) Items for SY 2016-17

| QUESTION                                                                                                                                                                                     | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>In last week's SN Weekly Update, the Q&amp;A addressed WG-Rich items in the Summer Feeding Programs; please clarify WG-Rich items for use in the NSLP and SBP in school year 2016-17.</p> | <p>You should continue to plan for grains at the same percentage at which you are currently operating. For example, if your SFA received an approved waiver, and you currently offer 50% of all grains that are WGR, then plan to continue at that level for school year 2016-17. If you did not apply for a waiver, your menus should continue to include 100% WGR grain items. Until Child Nutrition Reauthorization (CNR) is completed by Congress, we are to continue to operate under current regulations and guidance. This means that the State Agency will continue to honor the WGR waivers that are in place given the fact that the products are already in the procurement pipeline. The State Agency will keep you informed if any further documentation is required.</p> <p>Once the Child Nutrition Programs are reauthorized, the USDA will prepare new regulations and guidance that comply with the new laws. The State Agency will continue to keep you informed of any progress related to the CNR. Please let us know if you have additional questions about CNR.</p> |

## **\*REMINDER\* Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program Application Season**

It's not too late! There is still time for NC's eligible elementary schools to apply to participate in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FF&VP) for School Year 2016-2017. Please note the two 2016-2017 FF&VP application deadlines:

- **Friday, April 8, 2016 at 11:59 PM**, the 2016-2017 FF&VP application must be complete and saved in the School Nutrition Technology System
- **Friday, April 15, 2016 at 5:00 PM**, the [2016-2017 FF&VP Signature Pages](#) and "[How Many Days the FF&VP Will Operate](#)" form are both due in the NCDPI School Nutrition Services office. NOTE: no faxed or electronic signatures will be accepted.

If interested, please review the [Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program](#) page on the School Nutrition website information and to learn how to apply. For answers to FF&VP questions or assistance with the FF&VP application, please contact Zoe McKay-Tucker, Consultant for Special Programs at [zoe.mckaytucker@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:zoe.mckaytucker@dpi.nc.gov) or call 919-807-3517.

## **Vacancy Announcement – Perquimans County**

**School District:** Perquimans County Schools      **Position:** Director of Child Nutrition

**Application Deadline:** April 13, 2016

**CLICK HERE** (**will be linked on the website**) for details and application instructions.

## **AWARDS & GRANTS**

### **\*REMINDER\* Golden Key Achievement Award Submissions Due April 15**

The Golden Key Achievement Award program is a set of criteria designed to recognize the great accomplishments in a single school cafeteria. The purpose of the award is to promote benchmarks of excellence across North Carolina and to honor School Nutrition programs that maintain high standards. Participation in this award fosters ongoing professional development and improvement in the school nutrition environment.

Schools qualifying for a plaque may be eligible to compete for award recognition at the State level. Each School Food Authority may submit their one best notebook entry that meets the plaque requirement to the State Agency to compete for First, Second, and Third-place awards. State level winners will be announced at the annual School Nutrition Association of North Carolina (SNA-NC) conference and also recognized at the annual School Nutrition Administrator Conference.

Entries for state-wide awards consideration must be received in the NC Department of Public Instruction School Nutrition Services Section by April 15, 2016.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

### **\*NEW\* Smart Options: Teach the Leader**

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, School Nutrition Services Section will offer the [Smart Options: Teach the Leader](#) workshop on June 14, 2016 at the Nussbaum Center for Entrepreneurship, 1451 S Elm-Eugene St, Greensboro, NC 27406. Sign in will begin at 8:00 AM and the class will be conducted from 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM. Please feel free to bring beverages and snacks as lunch will not be provided for this workshop.

The workshop 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 and features local school success stories. Participants will receive a certificate at the conclusion of the workshop.

#### **Additional Continuing Education Opportunities**

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit the School Nutrition Continuing Education page for details and registration information on the following opportunities.

- *N.C. Safe Plates (multiple dates and locations)*
- *North Carolina K-12 Culinary Institute Workshops for School Nutrition Administrators/Supervisor*
- *North Carolina K-12 Culinary Institute Workshops for School Nutrition Managers*
- *Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP): A Preventive Food Safety Plan for School Nutrition Programs*
- *May 2016 Policy Updates*
- *School Nutrition Association of North Carolina (SNA-NC) Preconference Workshops*

## Mark Your Calendar

### **Important Dates**

*Remember: Any time a due date/deadline falls on a weekend or a holiday, the deadline automatically extends to the next business day.*

**April 2016**

- Apr 10 ..... Deadline to submit claim for reimbursement for *NSLP/SBP/ASSP/SFSP/SSO* (for Mar 2016)
- Apr 15 ..... Deadline to submit *FFVP* claim for reimbursement (for Mar 2016)
- Apr 15 ..... March Nutrient Analysis Reports Due (Submit to Zone Nutrition Specialist)
- Apr 15 ..... Deadline to submit Golden Key Achievement Award Summaries and Entries for State-level Awards
- Apr 15 ..... 2016-2017 FF&VP Signature Pages and “How Many Days FF&VP Will Operate” for due in NCDPI office by 5:00 p.m.
- Apr 18-20 ..... NC Safe Plates Workshop (Vance County)
- Apr 20 ..... HACCP: A Preventive Food Safety Plan for School Nutrition Programs Workshop (Greensboro)
- Apr 21 ..... SFSP Workshop (New Bern Convention Center)
- Apr 25-27 ..... NC Safe Plates Workshop (Raleigh, NC)
- Apr 25-29 ..... Every Kid Healthy Week
- Apr 28 ..... Norovirus: Effective Cleaning and Sanitizing After Exposure in Kitchen and Dining Areas (Webinar)
- April 28-29 ..... Smart Options Workshop (Beaufort, NC)

**May 2016**

- May 2 ..... FC1-A Financial Analysis Worksheet/SFA Financial Software Report Due
- May 6 ..... [School Lunch Hero Day](#)
- May 6 ..... Zone 1 Policy Update
- May 10 ..... Deadline to submit claim for reimbursement for *NSLP/SBP/ASSP/SFSP/SSO* (for Apr 2016)
- May 10 ..... Zone 3 Policy Update
- May 10-12 ..... NC Safe Plates Workshop (Bolivia, NC)
- May 11 ..... NCPA – 2016-2017 NEW Distributor Bid Opening (Raleigh, NC - McKimmon Center)
- May 12 ..... Zone 4 Policy Update for LEAs
- May 13 ..... Zone 4 Policy Update for NonLEAs
- May 15 ..... Deadline to submit *FFVP* claim for reimbursement (for Apr 2016)
- May 17 ..... Zone 5 Policy Update
- May 18 ..... Zone 6 Policy Update
- May 19 ..... Zone 7 Policy Update
- May 24-25 ..... K-12 Culinary Institute Preview for School Nutrition Administrators
- May 20 ..... Zone 2 Policy Update
- May 30 ..... Memorial Day (State Offices Closed)

**June 2016**

- June 10 ..... Deadline to submit claim for reimbursement for *NSLP/SBP/ASSP/SFSP/SSO* (for Apr 2016)
- June 13-15 ..... NC Safe Plates Workshop (Greensboro)
- June 14 ..... Smart Options Teach the Leader Workshop
- June 15 ..... Deadline to submit *FFVP* claim for reimbursement (for May 2016)

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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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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