

# Monthly Update

## Child & Adult Care Food Program



October 25, 2023

*Distributed to CACFP Authorized Representatives and Home Sponsors via Listserv*

*As posted to <https://cnw.ksde.org>, CACFP, Monthly Updates*

### 2024 Certification

Thank you to the Sponsors who have completed Program Certification! **Program Certification must be completed by October 31 and approved** before October claims can be filed. Contact your area Child Nutrition Consultant or the Topeka Office if you need assistance. If program certification is not submitted in KN-CLAIM by October 31, 2023, then Sponsors may not be eligible to receive October reimbursement and may be terminated from the CACFP. For any Sponsors that are terminated from the CACFP, to participate in the program again, organizations will have to go through the New Sponsor approval process which is more in-depth than completing annual certification.

### October Claim Reminder – Centers Only

Centers must report the number of free, reduced price, and paid participants on their October claims. The number of participants in each category is reported in the “Center Income Eligibility Categories” (IEC) section of the Center Claim. Sponsors are required to upload the IEC summary into KN-CLAIM in October and any other month that reported numbers are changed. An Excel version of Form 12-C is available at <https://cnw.ksde.org>, CACFP, Administrative Handbook, Chapter 12 Claiming Reimbursement.

Reminder: When the claiming percentages are being established for the year, the IEC Summary must only include those participants who have complete and valid enrollment forms on file AND ate a meal/snack in the month of October.

Note: A recording of the Determining Eligibility for CACFP training that was held via zoom is available in the KSDE Training Portal. This training does include a refresher on completing the Income Eligibility Categories (IEC) summary.

### Fiscal Year 2024 CACFP & SFSP Area Eligibility Data Now Available!

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is excited to announce that the 2023 Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) participant area eligibility data are now available! At the start of every fiscal year, FNS releases a special tabulation of data provided by the Census Bureau for CACFP and SFSP that establishes area eligibility in CACFP and SFSP. These data are effective as of October 1, 2023.

The FNS mapping tools have also been updated to reflect the new data. To see the map, click this [link](#). The entire data set is available for download on FNS' [open data site](#). To learn more about using census data for establishing area eligibility for CACFP and SFSP, please see our policy memorandum SP 08-2017, CACFP 04-2017, SFSP 03-2017, Area Eligibility in Child Nutrition Programs, issued December 1, 2016, available at: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/area-eligibility-child-nutrition-programs>. Please note that the map works best when opened in the following browsers: Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox.



## Farm to Plate

### FY24 USDA Farm to School Grant Request for Applications

The Fiscal Year 2024 **USDA Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grant** Request for Applications (RFA) is now available [here!](#) Applications are due by 11:59pm EST on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024. USDA seeks to award up to \$12 million to expand access to local food. Schools and school districts, CACFP and Summer sponsors, Indian tribal organizations, State agencies, local agencies, non-profit organizations, and agricultural producers are encouraged to apply. Applicants may apply for grants of up to \$100,000 in one of the five grant tracks.

USDA will host two webinars (that will be recorded) to help interested applicants learn more about the RFA and how to apply.

- **Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2023, 2:00pm CST - "Getting Familiar with the Fiscal Year 2024 Patrick Leahy Farm to School Request for Applications":** This webinar will provide an overview of the FY 2024 Farm to School Grant Program Request for Applications (RFA), including updates to eligibility, funding priorities, and more. Get familiar with the requirements of the RFA and how to submit your completed application on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).
- **Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023, 1:00pm CST - "Getting your Grant Package Together":** During this webinar, we will explore the key characteristics of competitive Farm to School grant applications. We will review the required components and provide technical assistance on how to submit a complete application. Attendees will learn tips and tricks for writing a succinct application that clearly outlines your farm to school project.

### K-State Research and Extension Local Foods Community Roundtables

Roundtable discussions led by K-State Research and Extension are a time to build connections, share successes and challenges, and learn about resources to support and grow local foods. RSVP to attend at this website: <https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/kansaslocalfoods/get-involved/roundtables.html>

### Farm to Plate Survey

We need your feedback! This short (less than 5 minute) survey will inform the CNW Farm to Plate team of local food purchasing in School Nutrition Programs across the state. This information will be used to develop new resources, trainings, and strategies to assist schools in increasing local foods served program meals. Take the survey here: [https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9ESkLKfXUvjXOTQ](https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9ESkLKfXUvjXOTQ)

### Harvest of the Month is here!

Harvest of the Month is now available! This program features Kansas grown foods with recipes, posters, table tents, newsletters, a video and more. October materials featuring Kansas grown apples are available at [cnw.ksde.org/f2p/what's-new](https://cnw.ksde.org/f2p/what's-new). Check back soon for November's harvest, pumpkins!

### Have you Crunched into a Local Food Yet?

There is still time to register and participate in the Farm to Plate Month - Mountain Plains Crunch Off

- **What:** The Midwest states will be crunching into local food of choice during Farm to Plate month to see which state will get the most "crunches" and be crowned the Crunch Champion!
- **When:** Any date in October
- **How:** Begin getting your Crunch group together. Register at: [https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3Cw1w1Uz2WwKLOW](https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3Cw1w1Uz2WwKLOW)
- **Questions:** Contact Barb Depew, Farm to Plate Project Director at [bdepew@ksde.org](mailto:bdepew@ksde.org), or Eryn Davis at [edavis@ksde.org](mailto:edavis@ksde.org).



### Team Nutrition Food Buying Training Modules – Now Available

Team Nutrition has released two new training modules featuring the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (FBG). These modules provide a step-by-step tour through the Exhibit A Grains Tool and FBG Calculator available on the FBG Interactive Web-Based Tool and Mobile App. Each module provides an in-depth look at each tool and interactive knowledge checks to assist the learner. These modules and other trainings such as webinar recordings can be accessed on the [Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs: Training Resources](#).

### Healthier CACFP Award Application

The Healthier CACFP Award is a recognition system that supports the wellness efforts of childcare providers, day care center staff, and home providers participating in the CACFP. Caregivers going above and beyond the Program requirements by taking steps to improve the menus, physical activity, professional development, nutrition, and wellness environment and/or infant care can apply for an award in one or more of these categories. Three award levels are offered: Honors, High Honors and Highest Honors. For more information and to access the application and resource book visit, <https://cnw.ksde.org>, CACFP, USDA Healthier CACFP Award or email Karen Seymour at [kseymour@ksde.org](mailto:kseymour@ksde.org).

### Download NEW Nibbles for Health Parent Newsletters!

USDA's Team Nutrition initiative is proud to announce the release of three new *Nibbles for Health: Nutrition Newsletters for Parents of Young Children*.

- **Developing Healthy Habits With Less Sugar**
- **Developing a Taste for Less Sodium**
- **Serving Meals "Family Style"**

These colorful and engaging newsletters for parents of young children (3 to 5-year-olds) can be shared by Child and Adult Care Food Program providers to communicate information about popular nutrition topics. [View in Spanish | Veá en español](#). Check out these newsletters and more at [www.fns.usda.gov/tn/nibbles](http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/nibbles).

### Training Opportunities

Many opportunities for learning are available for CACFP Sponsors. Go to <https://cnw.ksde.org>, Training, CNW Calendar to access the class list with dates, times and ZOOM links. Training is also offered through the KSDE Training Portal 24/7 at <https://learning.ksde.org>.

New training resource: Annual Civil Rights Training Documentation - Spanish. Located at <https://cnw.ksde.org>, CACFP, CACFP Administrative Handbook, Chapter 6 Related Forms.

### "Trick" with some healthy "treats"!

Make healthy foods fun and festive with these ideas. Have a fun and healthy Halloween celebration!

- **Holiday fun:** Turn oranges into pumpkins or string cheese packages into ghosts by drawing faces on them.
- **Fun shapes:** Use cookie cutters to cut fruits, cheese, sandwiches, or bread into shapes that fit the theme (such as leaves or pumpkins).
- **Get colorful:**
  - Choose foods that fit the festivities, such as orange fruits for Halloween; or red, white, and blue fruits (ex., watermelon, bananas, and blueberries) for Veteran's Day.
  - Scatter colorful or holiday-themed sprinkles onto oatmeal or yogurt.
  - Serve food on colorful plates and drinks in festive cups.



### MyPlate is on Instagram

MyPlate is now on Instagram! Be one of the first to follow along @MyPlate\_gov. Each week we will share recipes, tips for healthy eating, and more with themes like #MyPlateMondays, #RecipeThursdays and #BudgetFriendlyFridays.

### Staffing Update

Cheryl Johnson will be retiring as Director of the KSDE Child Nutrition & Wellness team as of October 27<sup>th</sup>. It has been an honor and privilege to work with each of you to implement the CACFP in Kansas. I truly appreciate each of you and will miss working alongside you.

Kelly Chanay has been selected to fill the role of Director as of October 30<sup>th</sup>. Kelly has more than 17 years' experience with Child Nutrition Programs and will be a strong leader. Congratulations Kelly!

**Thank you for being the heart of Child Nutrition Programs and creating healthy habits for Kansas kids. Know that you are appreciated!**

### Cheryl, Karen, and Kelly



For more information, contact:

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