

Monthly Update

Child & Adult Care Food Program



October 3, 2024

Distributed to CACFP Authorized Representatives and Home Sponsors via Listserv and posted to <https://cnw.ksde.org>, CACFP, CACFP Monthly Updates

Happy New Program Year and THANK YOU!

Welcome to Program Year 2025! What a great opportunity we have to fuel the success of Kansas' future! The Child Nutrition & Wellness team appreciates and sends sincere thanks to all dedicated Kansas Child Nutrition Professionals for the great work you have always done and will continue to do in Program Year 2025!

October Town Hall

The October Town Hall will provide important reminders, clarifications and updates for SNP and CACFP. Topics include Farm to Plate Month updates, recognition of Kansans Can Award winners, grant opportunities, and SNP Verification reminders. Join the meeting on October 10 at 2 pm using the following link: <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/87204779621?pwd=NEhrcHloRjBobGtOZTJEWfJtR0tUQT09> Meeting ID: 872 0477 9621. Passcode: 746337

2025 Certification

Thank you to those Sponsors who have submitted their 2025 packets for certification in KN-CLAIM. Consultants are currently working through certification documents to approve Sponsors for the 2025 program year in the order they were received. If certification information has not been submitted, sponsors can find instructions for certification at <https://cnw.ksde.org>, CACFP, Program Certification. To participate in CACFP for the 2025 Program Year, beginning October 2024, Sponsors must complete program certification requirements as soon as possible to allow sufficient time for review by KSDE consultants. Sponsors cannot claim meals in the 2025 program year until Program Certification is complete and approved by KSDE.

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 the Income Eligibility Categories Summary template 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 on the KSDE Training Portal. This training does include a refresher on completing the Income Eligibility Categories (IEC) summary.



Claim Reminder – Home Sponsoring Organizations Only

September 2024 Sponsor claims must be in “Pending Approval” status by 3:00 p.m. Monday, 10/21/2024. Vouchers will be posted on Tuesday, 10/22/2024, allowing payments to direct deposit on Friday, 10/25/2024. August upward revisions are due by the end of 10/30/2024.

October is Farm to Plate Month!

FY 2024 Farm to School Grant

Child Nutrition Program (CNP) Sponsors may request up to \$10,000 to support Farm to Plate initiatives that will increase the local foods served as part of Child Nutrition Program snacks and meals. Subgrants will be utilized by CNP operators to advance eligible local foods programming activities including gardening, chicken houses, raising livestock, garden towers, and more. Two funding tracks will be available: up to \$2,500 subgrant available for expansion of current farm to CNP projects, and up to \$10,000 for new projects implementing farm to CNP programming. Subgrants will be available to School Nutrition Program (SNP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsors with funding priority given to those with 40% or more of program participants eligible for free or reduced priced meals. The application is available at <https://cnw.ksde.org>, Farm to Plate, What’s New. Contact Barb Depew at bdepew@ksde.org with questions.

Harvest of the Month

The Harvest of the Month program is here! This month, your sponsor will receive a toolkit in the mail with promotional items for the Harvest of the Month program including:

- One 18 x 24 poster for each month
- One roll of 100 stickers for each month
- 6 sheets of static clings per month, 3 clings per sheet.

Additional resources will be available for download on the Child Nutrition & Wellness website this fall under the Farm to Plate tab. As you implement the Harvest of the Month resources, post and share using the hashtag #fuelingskids. Complete the Harvest of the Month survey to be entered to win a tabletop blender and digital scale. Winners will be drawn in March 2025, October 2025, and March 2026. Contact Eryn Davis at edavis@ksde.org or 785-296-5060 with questions regarding Harvest of the Month.

Local Foods Culinary Training

Available on the KSDE Training Portal, this 2-hour training features Kansas products and producers, gives helpful information to how to implement Farm to Plate in Kansas Child Nutrition Programs, and provides recipes and culinary tips for incorporating the Kansas products featured in the training into local menus! Go to <https://learning.ksde.org> to access this training.

The 6th Annual Mountain Plains Crunch Off – October 2024

Mark your calendars for the 6th annual Mountain Plains Crunch Off! Celebrate with any crunchable local product any day in October to participate in the crunch off. Crunchable local products can be found in many places – school/childcare gardens, farmer’s market, or local distributors. Register your crunch at https://ksde.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6QBF0bpkiChGNSe



USDA Updates

Crediting in the Child Nutrition Programs Tip Sheet Series

The Crediting in the Child Nutrition Programs Tip Sheet series has been revised to reflect the changes with the Final Rule, “Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans”. The Crediting in the Child Nutrition Programs tip sheet series consists of seven tip sheets covering the five meal components: fruits, vegetables, meats/meat alternates, fluid milk, and grains (three separate tip sheets). The revised versions introduce the menu-planning flexibilities beginning July 1, 2024, and changes that will be implemented in the coming school years in a quick-reference format.

Access the entire tip sheet series today in English at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/crediting-tip-sheets-child-nutrition-programs> or in Spanish at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/es/tn/crediting-tip-sheets-child-nutrition-programs>. The series will be available in print at a later date!

New foods are now available in the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (FBG) Interactive Web-based Tool and Mobile App!

New yield data is available for the following, which are identified as traditional Indigenous foods in Tribal communities: Huckleberries, bison, canned steelhead trout, halibut, walleye, white perch, and whitefish. Stay tuned for additional yield data releases coming soon. Explore the FBG today!

Fiscal Year 2025 CACFP & SFSP Area Eligibility Data Now Available!

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has announced that the 2025 Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) participant area eligibility data is 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. This data is effective as of October 1, 2024. The FNS mapping tools have also been updated to reflect the new data.

To explore the area eligibility map, click this [link](#). The data set is also available for download on FNS' [open data site](#). To learn more about using census data for establishing area eligibility for CACFP and SFSP, please review the USDA [policy memorandum](#) from 2017.

2024 Summer EBT – Application Deadline Extended to October 15th

The Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Program (Summer EBT) is a new federal nutrition program that provides grocery benefits during the summer months to families with children eligible for free or reduced price school meals. Kansas has elected to participate in Summer EBT beginning in summer 2024. For more information about Summer EBT in Kansas, go to [Summer EBT - Economic & Employment Services \(ks.gov\)](#). Households can contact the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) at 1-866-369-4777 for more information about eligibility benefits. **Eligible children that were not automatically issued benefits by DCF by the end of July may complete an online application up until October 15, 2024, at www.dcfapp.kees.ks.gov.**

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. Upcoming trainings include: Procuring Local Foods on October 2 from 2-3 pm, Food Safety Basics on October 16 from 2-5 pm, CACFP Administrative Review Training on October 29 from 1-2 pm, and Speed Scratch Strategies on November 6 from 2-3:30 pm.



Training is also offered 24/7 through the KSDE Training Portal. Create an account at <https://learning.ksde.org>. For detailed instructions on creating an account, go to <https://cnw.ksde.org>, Training.

CACFP Administrative Review Training

Sponsors receiving an Administrative Review during PY 2024-25 are encouraged to attend this training on October 29 at 1 pm. The training will cover the review process, and consultants will share helpful tips and reminders. Join the training at <https://ksde.zoom.us/j/89054560552?pwd=U3oydlhZcm0vdndsZEh4Mk5vSEx5Zz09> (Meeting ID: 890 5456 0552 Passcode: 990830).

Culinary Coaches – NEW Training Program!

KSDE Child Nutrition & Wellness is excited to be launching a Culinary Coaches Program in SY 2025! This training opportunity allows sponsors to request in-person, hands-on culinary training conducted at their site. The sessions will be led by trained culinary coaches and will focus on developing culinary skills that will better enable child nutrition program sponsors to prepare scratch and speed scratch recipes. If interested in the culinary coaches training, please contact Holly at hsteinlage@ksde.org.

As always, if you have questions or need technical assistance, please contact your Child Nutrition Consultant or the Topeka office.

The CNW Team



For more information, contact:

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