

ISBE SNP Update

Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2026



What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition



- **ISBE SNP Updates**

- Spring semester: **Feb. 4, March 4, April 1, May 6**
 - [Register for them all today; click here.](#)
- Earn annual training requirements
- Recordings on the [SNP Training](#) and [Professional Standards](#) webpage

What's New?



What's New

- Updated Federal Micro-Purchase and Simplified Acquisition Thresholds [↗](#)

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

- CACFP Week is March 15-21!
- Read the Latest Issue of the Mealtime Minutes Newsletter

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

- ABCs of School Nutrition In-Person Training March 6 in Effingham
- Register to Attend the 2026 ISBE School Wellness Conference
- Culinary Institute of Child Nutrition Webinar Series Continues Feb. 5
- FDP SY 26-27 Annual Order Period Jan. 12 to March 6
- Celebrate National School Breakfast Week! (March 2-6)
- March 26 Webinar on the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) [↗](#)
- 2026 SFNDA/ISBE/MO-DESE Commodity Expo and Vendor Showcase on Feb. 16-17
- Sign Up for "Serve It Safely Food Handler Training"
- Sign Up for Feb. 10 Training on "Food Allergies in School Nutrition"
- Register for School Year 2025-26 ISBE SNP Update Webinars [↗](#)
- Read the Latest Issue of The Outlook Newsletter

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

- ISBE Seeks Sponsors to Expand Access to Summer Meals Programs Statewide

What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

- The Outlook
 - Read the latest issues!
 - Keep your WINS contacts up-to-date.
 - Most messages sent to Authorized Rep., Sponsor Contact, Claim Contact, Food Service Director, and Wellness Coordinator
 - Others can sign up at www.isbe.net/subscribe



What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

- **Serve It Safely Food Handler Training**

- 2:30-5 p.m. March 10

- **Food Allergies in School Nutrition**

- 2-4 p.m. Feb. 10

- **ABCs of School Nutrition**

- In-Person Training in Effingham**

- 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 6



What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

Institute of Child Nutrition



- Culinary Institute of Child Nutrition Webinar Series
 - "What's New at CICN: Resources and Trainings to Advance Your School Culinary Operations Goals"
 - 2-3 p.m. CST Thursday, Feb. 5
 - [Register online!](#)



What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

Food Distribution Program

- **Commodity Expo and Vendor Showcase**
 - **Where:** St. Charles, Mo.
 - **When:** Feb. 16-17
 - **Presented by** the St. Louis School Food & Nutrition Directors Association, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and ISBE
 - **Register:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/STLExpo26>



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Food Distribution Program

- **School Year 2026-27 Annual Order Period**
 - **When:** Jan. 12 to March 6
 - Diversion to Processors option will close in the Illinois Commodity System (ICS) from Feb. 23-27 so that ISBE can compile truck loads. It will re-open March 2-6 for final changes.
 - **Recorded Webinar:** Watch the FDP Training at <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/snp-training.aspx>



What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

Food Distribution Program

- **Additional DOD Funds Available**



1. Spend your allotted DOD funds before requesting additional funds.
2. Email Paula Williams at pawillia@isbe.net to request additional funds.
3. Additional funds will be added in increments of 20% of your SY 26 Beginning PAL Balance. For example, if your Beginning PAL Balance was \$20,000, we will add \$4,000.
4. If you use all additional funds, you can request more at that time, following this same process.
5. Direct questions to Paula Williams at pawillia@isbe.net.

What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition



Ramadan Waiver Available

- Schools can serve reimbursable non-congregate meals/snacks to students fasting during Ramadan
- Schools must complete waiver request in WINS
- Students must be in attendance at the school on the day the congregate meals/snacks are offered.
- Waiver request requires date range and a brief description of process to assure accurate meal counts.
- Parent/guardian template letter available. Email us at cnp@isbe.net to request.

What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

Meals During E-Learning/Remote Days

- If a district or school switches to e-learning/remote learning for any unanticipated school closure (COVID-19, fire, flooding, weather related {heat, cold, snow}, strikes, etc.), the district may offer meals to all enrolled students.
- To receive federal reimbursement, the school district must submit a waiver request and may offer non-congregate meals to all enrolled students under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program.
- Meals offered must continue to meet the federal program requirements. Districts must continue to charge, track, and claim meals provided by individual student eligibility. CEP approved sites must track and claim meals daily.

What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

- **National School Breakfast Week**
 - **When:** March 2-6
 - **Theme:** The Quest for School Breakfast
 - **Resources:**
 - [School Nutrition Association](#): Logos, a toolkit, an activity guide, and more.
 - [USDA School Breakfast Materials](#): Photo props, Pop-up Events Idea Booklet, nutrition education resources, posters, recipes, and more.



What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

Community Eligibility Provision

- **SY 26-27 CEP for Illinois Schools:
Overview and Application Process Webinar**
 - 9:30-11 a.m. March 26
 - [Register today!](#)
 - Visit <https://www.isbe.net/cep> for CEP resources!

What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

2026 ISBE School Wellness Conference

- **Registration open!**
 - **When:** May 4-6
 - **Where:** Bloomington-Normal
Marriot Hotel & Conference Center
 - **Registration, Schedule, Hotel, and More Information:**
<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Wellness-Conference.aspx>



What's New? www.isbe.net/nutrition

2026 ISBE School Nutrition Training

- Save the Dates!**
 - When:** June 24-25
 - Where:** Crowne Plaza Hotel Springfield
 - SNP Training and Professional Standards**



Procurement



What is Procurement and Who is Responsible?

Procurement means the process of obtaining goods and/or services in accordance with applicable rules and regulations.

The School Food Authority (SFA) is responsible for procuring and maintaining all documents related to goods and services.

UPDATE! Federal Procurement Methods

- Micro-Purchase Method (informal): up to \$15,000



- Small Purchase Method (informal): up to \$350,000



- Large Purchase Method (formal): greater than \$350,000
- REMINDER: Local or State Thresholds may be more restrictive and must be adhered to.

REMINDER! Required Procurement Policies



PROCUREMENT
PROCEDURES



CODE OF CONDUCT



PROTEST
PROCEDURES

REMINDER! Procurement Training Requirement

7 CFR 210.21(h)

School Nutrition Program directors, management, and staff tasked with National School Lunch Program procurement responsibilities must complete annual training on Federal procurement standards annually.

Procurement training may count towards the professional standards training standards.

School Food Authorities must retain records to document compliance with procurement training.

REMINDER! Contract Renewal Submission

- **Contracted:** means the reimbursable meals are prepared on or off-site through a Third Party such as a Food Service Management Company (FSMC), Vended Meals Company, Another SFA or Governmental Agency.
- **Submission:** submit copy of the signed contract/agreement via email to NutritionProcurement@isbe.net by **May 15th**

Procurement Resources



Website Resources:

Nutrition Home Page: www.isbe.net/nutrition

NUTRITION

Welcome to the Nutrition Department. This department supports and promotes the overall well-being of children. Healthy meals and healthy habits are essential for readiness to learn and success in the classroom and beyond.

Programs administered by the department include the [National School Lunch Program](#), [School Breakfast Program](#), [Child and Adult Care Food Program](#), [Summer Food Service Program](#), [Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program](#), and the [Special Milk Program](#). Are you interested in participating in Child Nutrition Programs in Illinois? Visit the [New Applicants webpage](#) for more information on how to become a sponsor.

ATTENTION: If you have difficulty understanding English or have a disability, free language assistance or other aids and services are available upon request. Please call (800) 545-7892 (Illinois only) or (217) 782-2491 (TTY: (217) 782-1900).

[Log in to IWAS](#)

What's New



- CHILD & ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM
- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
- FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

- General Procurement for All Programs
- SNP FSMC/Vended Meals Contracts
- SNP Procurement Review
- SNP Resource Management

> Nutrition > Financial Management

NUTRITION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Illinois State Board of Education Nutrition Department's Financial Management section of the website provides rules and resources to Child Nutrition Programs sponsors on procurement, contracts, and other financial matters. Child Nutrition Programs includes sponsors participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), and the School Nutrition Programs (SNP), which includes the National School Lunch Program and other school-based programs.

Procurement means the process of obtaining goods and/or services in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. Resource Management for School Nutrition Programs includes four general areas: Maintenance of Non-Profit School Foodservice Account, Paid Lunch Equity (PLE), Revenue from Nonprogram Foods, and Indirect Costs.

FACT SHEETS

Procurement:

- Code of Conduct 
- Large/Formal Purchase Method: For FSMC/Vended Meals 
- Large/Formal Purchase Method: For Food/ Supplies/ Equipment/ Services 
- Micro Purchase Method 
- Procurement Procedure 
- Purchasing Equipment 
- Small Purchase Method 
- Terminologies 

Resource Management (School Nutrition Programs):

- Maintenance of the Non-Profit School Food Account 

News and Updates

- Tentative List of SFAs Mandated to Procure FSMC or Vended Meals Contract 
- Passage of HB 4813 - Procurement Options and Q&A Document 
- RFP Vs. IFB - What's Best for my SFA? 
- Summary of HB 4813 PowerPoint Slides 
- Public Act 102-1101/105 ILCS 5/10-20.21 (HB 4813 became PA 102-1101 upon passage, which in turn amended the IL School Code)

General Procurement for All Programs 

SNP FSMC/Vended Meals Contracts 

SNP Procurement Review 

SNP Resource Management 

 **CNP NEWSLETTERS**

 **TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

General Procurement Website

GENERAL PROCUREMENT FOR ALL PROGRAMS

This webpage is on procurement guidance and requirements for all Child Nutrition Programs, including School Nutrition Programs (such as the National School Lunch Program, Special Milk Program, and School Breakfast Program), the Summer Food Service Program, and the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Procurement means the process of obtaining goods and/or services in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. Procurement rules ensure that program benefits are received by eligible schools and participants, and that taxpayer dollars are used effectively and efficiently, with no waste or abuse. Regulations require that all purchases made, whether funded wholly or in part with Child Nutrition Program funds, comply with all federal, state, and local procurement requirements.

All procurement transactions must be conducted in a manner that provides maximum open and free competition.

Procurement procedures must ensure they do not foster noncompetitive practices between firms, do not create organizational conflicts of interest, and do not restrict or eliminate competition. Procurement must not place unreasonable requirements on firms, require unnecessary experience, or establish unrealistic bonding requirements. There must be descriptions of all products purchased and identical instructions provided to all potential vendors.

Standards of conduct should govern the performance of officers, employees, and agents in the award and administration of contracts. These standards should provide that officers, employees, or agents should not solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties of sub-agreements.

Cost plus percentage of revenues and cost-plus percentage of expense type contracts are prohibited ([2 CFR 200.324\(d\)](#)).

Buy American (School Nutrition Programs Only)

Code of Conduct

Competition

Contract Certification Forms

Contracting Diversification

Emergency Procurement Guidance

Equipment

Expenditures (School Nutrition Programs)

General
Procurement for All
Programs

FFVP Procurement Information (School Nutrition Programs)

Geographic Preferences

Group Purchasing Organization

Material Change(s) to a Contract

Procurement Methods

Procurement Procedures

Protest Procedures

References and Resources

Rules and Regulations

Self-Operated Contract Resources

NEW! Self Operated Contract Resources

Self-Operated Contract Resources



Here are sample procurement resources to assist self-operated school food authorities.

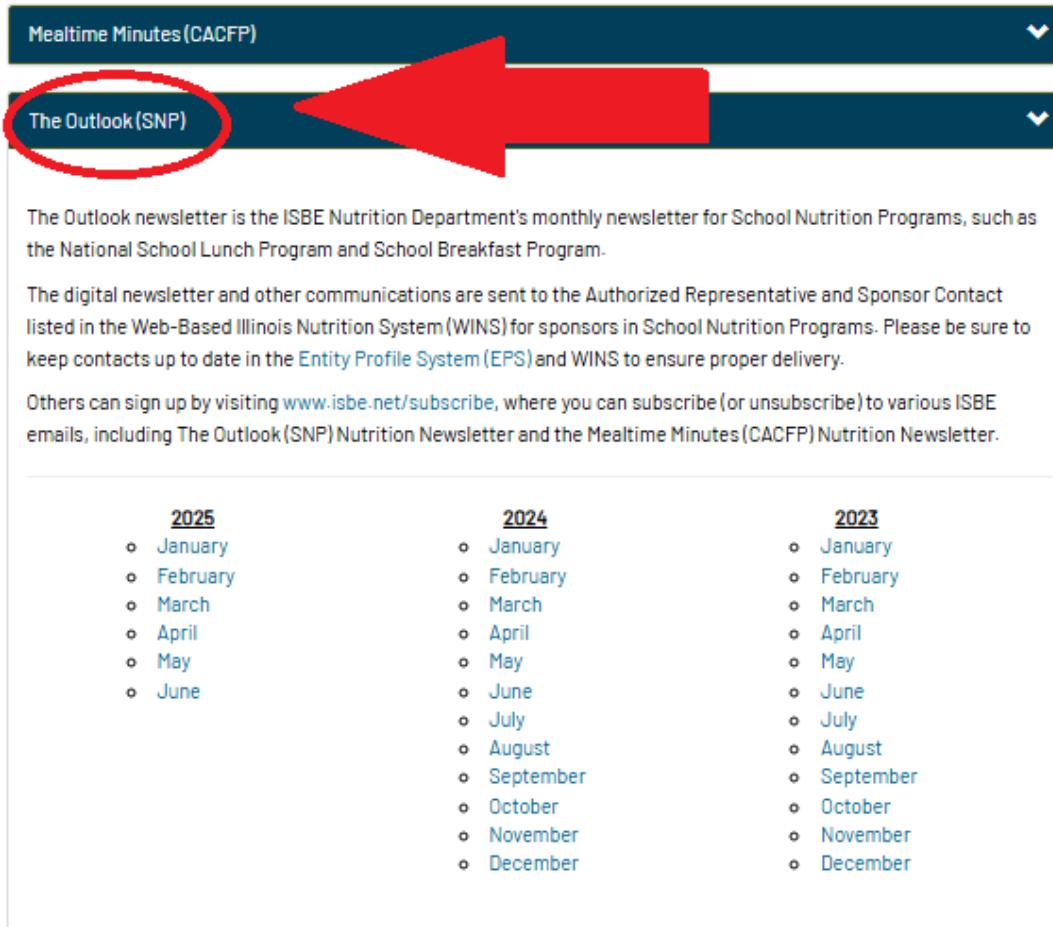
- List of Known Cooperatives
- List of Known Mainline, Milk, and Bread Vendors in SNP
- Sample Terms and Provisions
- Sample Bid Agreement
- Sample IFB Criteria Analysis Form
- Sample Newspaper Public Notice
- Sample Statement of No Bid
- Sample Solicitation Tracking Log

CNP Newsletters



CNP NEWSLETTERS

NUTRITION CNP NEWSLETTERS



Training Opportunities



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NUTRITION

SNP TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Illinois State Board of Education Nutrition Department presents a variety of training options to support school nutrition professionals in ensuring they have the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to successfully operate the National School Lunch Program and other School Nutrition Programs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's required professional standards consist of annual training requirements, as well as hiring standards.

Did You Know?

PRICING OF REDUCED-PRICE MEALS:

The maximum price a sponsor can charge for a student reduced-price National School Lunch Program reimbursable meal is 40 cents. The maximum price a sponsor can charge for a student reduced-price School Breakfast Program reimbursable meal is 30 cents. And the maximum price a sponsor can charge for a student reduced-price After-School Care Program snack is 15 cents.

Details on the pricing of meals are in the School Nutrition Programs: Administrative Handbook. Section M: Financial Management: Resource Management covers Paid Lunch Equity, Adult Meals, and more.

Pause Carousel

Visit our What's New? section to view and register for upcoming trainings and webinars and to link to recent recordings from the ISBE Nutrition Department and our training partners.

- ABCs of School Nutrition: The ISBE Nutrition Department partners with the University of Illinois Extension to provide resources and training to support school nutrition programs in Illinois. View recorded trainings and watch for upcoming in-person trainings and live webinars.
- Institute of Child Nutrition: ICN is a federally funded national center dedicated to applied research, education and training, and technical assistance for Child Nutrition Programs. Register for upcoming live trainings and access recorded trainings and other resources.
- USDA Professional Standards Training Database: This database allows school nutrition professionals to search for training that meets their learning needs in one easy-to-use website. Trainings are available in a variety of formats and most trainings are free.

Our In-Person Trainings

ISBE On-Demand Trainings & Resources

Professional Standards For All School Nutrition Programs Employees



Additional Outside Resources and Training

Free

- The Institute of Child Nutrition: <https://theicn.org/>
- Urban School Food Alliance:
<http://urbanschoolfoodalliance.org/>
- USDA Food and Nutrition Service:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/schoolmeals>

Additional Outside Resources and Training

Fees required, but may be Allocable Costs to the CNP

- Illinois Association of Public Procurement Officials (IAPPO):
<https://www.iappo.org/>
- NIGP The Institute for Public Procurement:
<https://www.nigp.org/>

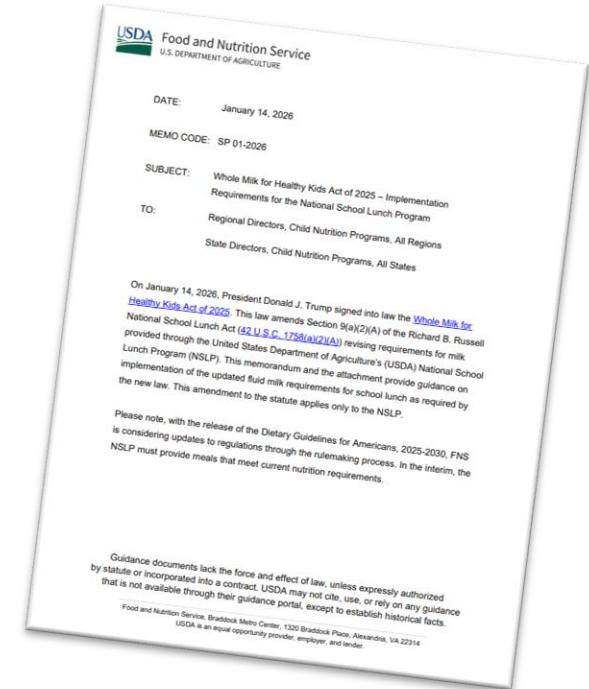
These are other similar companies or organizations that specialize in public procurement and may be an allowable cost to the Child Nutrition Programs. The companies listed are for information purposes and does not imply endorsement by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025



Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

- Signed into law on Jan. 14 by the president.
- Amends Section 9(a)(2)(A) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act ([42 U.S.C. 1758\(a\)\(2\)\(A\)](#)) revising requirements for milk provided through the USDA's National School Lunch Program.
- USDA Memo Code: [SP 01-2026](#)
- New law was effective immediately and only applies to NSLP.



Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

- The following milk options (flavored or unflavored, non-organic or organic) meet the meal pattern requirements for fluid milk and **may** be offered to all students at school lunch:
 - whole, reduced-fat (2%), low-fat (1%) and fat-free (skim) milk;
 - lactose-free and lactose-reduced milk;
 - cultured milk, such as cultured buttermilk, cultured kefir milk, and cultured acidophilus milk;
 - acidified milk, such as acidified kefir milk and acidified acidophilus milk; and
 - ultra-high temperature (UHT) milk.

Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

Whole milk and reduced-fat (2%) are new options that are now available to be offered at lunchtime only. No change to your current milk offerings is required.



Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

Dietary Specifications

Weekly Dietary Specification	Is Milk Included in Weekly Dietary Specification Calculations?
Saturated Fat	No
Calories	Yes
Sodium	Yes
Added Sugar (Effective July 1, 2027)	Yes

Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

Updates to Request Fluid Milk Substitutes for Disability Accommodations for School Lunch

Previously, schools, on receipt of a written statement from a State-licensed health care professional or registered dietitian, were required to provide a substitute for fluid milk for students whose disability restricts their diet. Effective immediately, a parent or legal guardian may also provide this written statement to request a fluid milk substitute at school lunch.

Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

Does whole milk have to be offered? No. Whole milk and reduced-fat (2%) are new options that are now available to be offered at lunchtime only. No change to your current milk offerings is required.

What milk can I serve at breakfast? The requirements for SBP did not change. Only low-fat (1%) and fat-free (skim) milk, flavored or unflavored, may be offered.

How many milk choices need to be offered? At least two different options of fluid milk must be available daily at breakfast and lunch.

How do I calculate the dietary specification for saturated fat at lunch? The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2025 modifies the requirement to exclude fluid milk only from the weekly limit for saturated fat. Do not include saturated fat from fluid milk when calculating the weekly average of saturated fat for lunch.

Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

How are other dietary specifications calculated? Calories, sodium, and added sugar from milk are still included in calculations for those dietary specifications.

Did the limit on added sugar in flavored milk change? No. Since July 1, 2025, flavored milk must contain no more than 10 grams of added sugars per 8 fluid ounces.

Can preschoolers now have flavored milk? No. Preschool students or children 5 years and under are not allowed to be served flavored milk. That did not change.

Can Special Milk Program and NSLP Afterschool Snack Program now serve whole milk? No.

Accommodations Resources

- USDA Accommodating Children With Disabilities in the School Meal Programs: Guidance for School Food Service Professionals
- ISBE Accommodating Children With Special Dietary Needs
 - Modifications Related to a Disability
 - Modifications Related to a Preference

USDA-FNS
Accommodating
Children with
Disabilities in the
School Meal Programs
*Guidance for School Food
Service Professionals*



United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service
7/25/2017

The contents of this guidance document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.



Accommodations Resources

Reimbursement While Waiting for a Medical Statement

Sometimes, SFAs receive a modification request outside the regular meal pattern before a child's parent or guardian is able to submit the required medical statement. If the SFA is aware a meal modification is needed, the SFA may not unduly delay providing the modification while awaiting the medical statement. Instead, the SFA should begin providing a reasonable modification to keep the child safe, and request the family provide a medical statement signed by a State licensed healthcare professional to support the meal modification as soon as possible.

In this situation, school officials must document the initial interaction with the family where school officials first learned of the child's need for a modification. School officials should follow up with the family if the school does not receive the requested medical statement as anticipated and maintain a record of this contact. Schools should continue to follow up until the family submits a medical statement supporting the need for a modification.

✓ Contact Us

Nutrition Department

- Call (800) 545-7892 or (217) 782-2491, cnp@isbe.net



IWAS

Contact the ISBE Call Center 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

- Call (217) 558-3600

Funding and Disbursements Department

For questions regarding claims and payments of Child Nutrition Programs

- Call (217) 782-5256, [email contacts](#)



Questions?



Thank you!

