

Supply Chain Assistance Funding Program Guidance Available

To assist school districts experiencing supply chain disruptions, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) allocated \$1 billion in relief funding to state agencies, made available through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and authorized under the CCC Charter Act [15 U.S.C. 714]. Of this national total, more than \$36 million is allocated to Illinois. These resources are referred to as Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) funds.

State agencies will distribute SCA funds to eligible School Food Authorities (SFAs) to be used exclusively to purchase unprocessed or minimally processed domestic food products (also referred to as commodities) to help SFAs deal with challenges, such as unanticipated cancellation of food and supply contracts, reduced availability of certain foods, unexpected substitution of certain products, unpredictable increases in food and supply prices, and other obstacles related to pricing and/or availability. As these challenges are both extensive and widespread, the SCA funds are targeted to provide a rapid and direct response via supplied commodities to affected school districts.

The Illinois State Board of Education has identified eligible School Food Authorities. Please carefully review the USDA guidance on the Illinois State Board of Education's ["Supply Chain Disruptions in the Child Nutrition Programs" webpage](#) and the Action Steps below.

Guidance for SFAs that Contract for Meals: For SFAs that contract with a food service management company, vended meals company, or another school for meals, specific guidance has been developed regarding options for allowable spending of SCA funds and required documentation (<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/SCA-meal-contracts.pdf>). Please review this guidance prior to completing the Action Steps below and discuss with your contractor if the requirements can be met. Once the SFA has made a determination, the SFA must complete the Action Steps below in order to notify ISBE if the SFA will or will not elect to request SCA funds.

Action Steps

- 1) Carefully review the posted [SCA Estimated Funding](#) for your SFA. If the posted enrollment is correct, move to Step 2. If the posted enrollment is incorrect, please submit a request to cnp@isbe.net including the agreement number and "SCA Allocation Notice" in the subject line no later than March 15, 2022.
- 2) Review the [SCA Attestation Statement](#) to determine if your SFA wishes to elect "YES" or "NO" to the SCA Funding.
- 3) Login to the Web-Based Illinois Nutrition System (WINS) and select the Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) link. Make the appropriate selection for your SFA.
- 4) Monitor the FRIS inquiry system for distribution of the SCA funding for your SFA. If the SCA Attestation is completed in WINS with a "YES" by the following March 18, 2022, the SFA should anticipate receiving SCA funding in early April 2022. A complete funding

timeline chart is [available online](#). If any SFA does not submit the SCA attestation by June 17, 2022, all remaining SCA funds will be used for the reallocation process as required by the USDA. This will occur in August/September 2022. ISBE will release additional information about the reallocation process at that time.

- 5) Carefully track the utilization of the SCA funds specific to your SFA, and maintain all documentation to support the allowable use of these funds. A sample [SCA Fund Tracking Form](#) is available on the ["Supply Chain Disruptions" webpage](#).

Nutrition Department, Illinois State Board of Education
100 N. First St., Springfield, IL 62777
Phone: (800) 545-7892 or (217) 782-2491
cnp@isbe.net, www.isbe.net/nutrition