



# THE OUTLOOK

A Monthly Newsletter for School Nutrition Programs

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

# ANNUAL ORDER TIME UNDER WAY

**T**he School Year 2022-2023 annual order period for the Food Distribution Program opened Jan. 3. The three spending options include USDA Foods, DOD Fresh, and diversion to processors.

The diversion to processors option will close in the Illinois Commodity System from Feb. 21 to Feb. 25, so that ISBE Nutrition Department staff can compile truck loads. It will re-open Feb. 28 for final

changes. All diversion to processor requests are due by March 4.

We understand that the continuing pandemic and supply chain disruptions will make it difficult to forecast your needs for next year. However, USDA has kept their order dates consistent with prior years, therefore, states must keep their order dates consistent.

Please email [fdp@isbe.net](mailto:fdp@isbe.net) with questions.

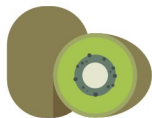
## Online Resources

- [ICS Instructions](#): Step by step instructions on placing an order
- [How to Place an Annual Order](#) recorded training
- [USDA Foods Show webinar and processor materials](#)



## NEWS BITES

### WINTER PRODUCE



Check out **SNAP-Ed Connection's** [Seasonal Produce Guide](#), which touts 28 different kinds of produce in season during winter: <https://snaped.fns.usda.gov/seasonal-produce-guide/winter>.

### TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

#### USDA's Team

**Nutrition** initiative posted a new Milk in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) web quiz, now available at [fns.usda.gov/tn/quizzes/milk-in-the-cacfp](https://fns.usda.gov/tn/quizzes/milk-in-the-cacfp). This quiz focuses on milk requirements in the CACFP. The complete web quiz collection is available at [fns.usda.gov/tn/quizzes](https://fns.usda.gov/tn/quizzes).



### UPCOMING TRAININGS

The **Institute of Child Nutrition** has Virtual Instructor-Led Trainings scheduled in January. The trainings are free but limited to 25 participants per session. Sessions include "Basic Culinary Math," "Financial Management for Managers," "Focus on the Customer for Directors and Managers," "Forecasting the Procurement of Foods," "Buy American U.S. Agriculture Supporting Healthy School Meals," "Nutrition 101," and "Utilizing the Cafeteria as a Classroom." Sign up at <https://theicn.org/vilts>.

## NSLP Equipment Grant Applications Due Jan. 14

**T**he deadline for the latest wave of National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grants is just around the corner. We wanted to provide one last reminder before the 4 p.m. Jan. 14 deadline.

To get started on an application please check out the [NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant webpage](#) or the [last issue of The Outlook for](#)

[School Nutrition Programs](#) (Page 1).

A [Questions and Answers document](#) regarding the Notice of Funding Opportunity is available to assist.

The grant period will begin no sooner than July 1, 2022, and will extend from the execution date of the grant until no later than Aug. 31, 2023.

Email [edurbin@isbe.net](mailto:edurbin@isbe.net) with questions.

## Food Buying Guide Tool Gets an Upgrade

**A** new feature is available on the Food Buying Guide (FBG) for Child Nutrition Programs Interactive Web-based Tool.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Team Nutrition recently announced that users can now view the meal pattern requirements per

meal component for a selected program and age/grade group while using the FBG calculator. This feature allows for easy access to helpful meal pattern guidance to assist in creating shopping lists.

Explore the [Food Buying Guide](#) today!

## Food Safety Trainings Slated

**T**he University of Illinois Extension will be offering another **"Food Handler Training With COVID-19 Guidance."** The next one is set for 2-4:30 p.m. Jan. 27. This is an Illinois Department of Public Health approved training. Participants will receive a certificate

good for three years. [Register online by clicking here.](#)

A training on **"Food Allergies in School Children"** is scheduled for 2:30-4:30 p.m. Feb. 10. [Registration is under way already online; click here.](#)

# 'Take Off With School Breakfast'

**N**ational School Breakfast Week (NSBW) is set for March 7-11, and this year's theme is "Take Off With School Breakfast." Here are some resources to help you get started and plan something special to celebrate nutritious meals and the incredible school nutrition professionals that make them happen.



The [School Nutrition Association](#) has a [NSBW 2022 toolkit and activity sheets](#) coming soon!



Check out the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Team Nutrition for great [School Breakfast Program materials](#) to celebrate the special week. The Team Nutrition Popular [Events Idea Booklet](#) includes lots of ideas, including "[Launch Your Day With Breakfast.](#)" The event aims to increase awareness of the importance of a healthy breakfast for learning and well-being. There is also "[Start Your Day On the Right Foot,](#)" which raises students' awareness of the importance of eating a healthy breakfast and staying active all year round, and motivates them to incorporate physical activity into their lives through fun group activities.

## Mark Your Calendar for CEP Webinar

**T**he Illinois State Board of Education Nutrition Department will present a March 24 webinar on the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). The training will be an overview of the CEP requirements as well as the online CEP Evaluation and Application Module available in the Web-Based Illinois Nutrition System (WINS). The webinar is scheduled for 1-2:30 p.m. [Register here.](#)

CEP is an alternative to collecting, approving, and verifying Household Eligibility Applications for free and reduced price eligible students in high poverty local educational agencies (LEAs) for schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program.

The module will begin accepting CEP applications for SY 22

### IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

A recording of the Dec. 14 **Talk to ISBE Tuesday webinar** is available on the ISBE website at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/7635506142248723969>.

A PDF of the slides is at <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/121421-SNPwebinar.pdf>.

-23 on April 1, 2022. The deadline for CEP application submission is June 30, 2022. For more information on CEP now, visit the ISBE website: <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Guidance-for-HHFKA.aspx>.



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## Events, Meetings, and Deadlines

- Jan. 3 – [SY 22-23 Food Distribution Program Annual Ordering Period Opens](#)
- Jan. 14 – [Deadline to apply for NSLP Equipment Assistance Grants](#)
- Jan. 15 – [Summer Food Service Mandate Opt-Out Provision deadline](#)
- Jan. 17 – ISBE offices closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan. 27 – [“Food Handler Training With COVID-19 Guidance”](#)
- Feb. 10 – [“Food Allergies in School Children” training](#)
- Feb. 11 – ISBE offices closed for Lincoln’s Birthday
- Feb. 21 – ISBE offices closed for Presidents Day

Please note this is not a complete list of Nutrition Department events, meetings, and deadlines. Visit us online at [www.isbe.net/nutrition](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition).

## What’s New?

- [FOOD RECALL: Fresh Express Salad Products](#)
- [FOOD RECALL: Unsliced Pepperoni Product Shipped to Retail Locations](#)
- [In Case You Missed It: Dec. 14 Talk to ISBE Tuesday webinar](#)
- [ICN Offers Free Virtual Instructor-Led Trainings for Child Nutrition Professionals](#)
- [Supply Chain Disruptions in the Child Nutrition Programs](#)

Watch for our latest news and posts under What’s New? at [www.isbe.net/nutrition](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition).

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To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

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 **Email:** [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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