

# THE UTLOOK

*Your Guide to School-Based Child Nutrition Programs*

## **June 2014**

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## Equipment Assistance Grant for FY2015 National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Sponsors

With \$9.7M from the FY2013 Agriculture Appropriations Act, \$25M from the FY2014 Agriculture Appropriations Act, and a balance of \$1.25M from the FY2010 Agriculture Appropriations Act, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has been authorized to provide grants to State agencies for providing equipment assistance to school food authorities (SFA) participating in the NSLP. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is making Illinois' award of \$1,318,438 in NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant funds available through an RFP.

These funds should make a significant investment in addressing the unmet need in the state by allowing SFAs to purchase the equipment needed to serve healthier school meals with an emphasis on serving more fresh fruits and vegetables, improving food safety, and expanding access to healthy foods, all of which will improve the quality of school meals.

Each school food authority (SFA) participating in the federally-funded National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is eligible to submit a proposal for schools under their jurisdiction where not less than 50 percent of the enrolled students were eligible for free or reduced-price meals in October 2013. If needed, refer to the FY2014 eligibility listing posted online at [http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/eligibility\\_listings.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/eligibility_listings.htm). A SFA is defined as a governing body which is responsible for the administration of one or more schools and has the legal authority to operate the NSLP therein.

Priority will be given to eligible SFAs 1) that did not receive equipment assistance grants in any of its schools in FY2009 or FY2010. (If needed, refer to the *SFAs Previously Funded* listing at [http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/nslp\\_grant.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/nslp_grant.htm)); 2) that demonstrate high need, i.e., are able to show schools for which they are applying are in an underserved area, have limited access to other resources/funding to purchase equipment, current equipment is outdated, non-functioning or non-existent; 3) that commit to using funds to improve the quality and safety of school meals, overall energy efficiency, and/or participation; 4) that commit to implementing strategies for adopting smarter lunchrooms; 5) whose applying schools participate in the School Breakfast Program (SBP); 6) whose applying schools are self-operated and/or satellite meals to other schools participating in NSLP; and 7) whose applying schools have high free and reduced-price eligibility rates.

This RFP is posted at [http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/nslp\\_grant.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/nslp_grant.htm) and the deadline to apply is June 20, 2014.

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## Training Opportunities for School-Based Child Nutrition Programs

### WEBINARS

Webinars from this past year have been recorded and is available for viewing at any time at <http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/workshops.htm> (under National School Lunch Program).

Prior topics archived online include:

- ✓ Benefit Issuance and Meal Counting and Claiming
- ✓ Electronic Direct Certification
- ✓ Certification of Eligibility
- ✓ Verification
- ✓ NSLP/SBP Menu Planning
- ✓ USDA Foods
- ✓ Implementing the School Breakfast Program
- ✓ Paid Lunch Equity
- ✓ Heart Healthy Month - Focus on Fat and Sodium Reduction in School Meals
- ✓ Local School Wellness Policies
- ✓ Electronic Direct Certification

## IN-PERSON

ISBE's Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division will host a variety of in-person training opportunities for school nutrition program staff for SY2014-2015. There is no registration fee for these workshops. Beverage service only will be available. Please save the date for the workshop(s) in your area that are applicable to your job duties. Registration is now available [online](#). Locations tend to fill up quickly, so complete registration as soon as announced to secure your space.

### **School Meals Menu Planning 101**

This ½ day workshop will be a hand-on workshop with menu planning activities geared to the school nutrition personnel that plan the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program menus. Meal pattern changes required for SY2014-2015 will be included as well as overall meal pattern information. Each workshop location is limited to 50 attendees, so we request that each school register no more than 2 staff to attend this training.

#### **Dates and Locations**

- July 23, 2014 – Arlington Heights (afternoon session)
- July 24, 2014 – Alsip (morning session)
- July 28, 2014 – Bloomington (morning session)
- July 29, 2014 – Carbondale (afternoon session)
- July 30, 2014 – Collinsville (morning session)

### **Direct Certification, Certification, and Verification**

This ½ day workshop will be a training on the overall regulations related to the use of the *Electronic Direct Certification System*, certification of household eligibility applications, and verification efforts. Staff that work directly with the overall certification process at your school district would be best to attend this training session.

#### **Dates and Locations**

- August 13, 2014 – Arlington Heights (afternoon session)
- August 14, 2014 – Lisle (morning session)
- August 21, 2014 – Bloomington (morning session)
- August 26, 2014 – Carbondale (afternoon session)
- August 27, 2014 – Fairview Heights (morning session)

### **Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP)-based Food Safety Plan**

This workshop will assist School Food Authorities in meeting the HACCP based school food safety plan requirement. Key elements of a required HACCP – Process Approach based school food safety plan will be discussed.

#### **Dates and Locations**

- August 13, 2014 – Double Tree, Arlington Heights (morning session)
- August 21, 2014 - Marriott, Normal (afternoon session)
- August 26, 2014 - The Pavilion, Marion (morning session)

### **Overview of the Administrative Review Process**

This ½ day training will provide sponsors an overview of the Administrative Review (AR) including all USDA checklists and resources. The Administrative Review is an assessment conducted by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) of the School Food Authority's (SFA) administration of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) and other school nutrition programs. The objectives of the AR are to determine whether the SFA meets program requirements, provide technical assistance, secure any needed corrective action, and assess fiscal action, if

applicable. ISBE must conduct ARs of all SFAs participating in the NSLP and/or SBP at least once during each three-year review cycle period. The first three-year review cycle began SY2013-2014.

#### **Dates and Locations**

- October 15, 2014 – Schaumburg (afternoon session)
- October 16, 2014 – Lisle (morning session)
- October 21, 2014 – East Peoria (morning session)
- October 22, 2014 – Fairview Heights (morning session)

Register today! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our staff at (800) 545-7892 or via email at [cnp@isbe.net](mailto:cnp@isbe.net).

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## **IL School Nutrition Association (ILSNA) Annual Conference – June 2014**

This year's theme for the ILSNA 64th Annual Conference is "It Takes a Village" and will be held June 24-26, 2014 at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel and the Prairie Capital Convention Center in Springfield, IL. Conference brochure and registration available at [http://www.ilsna.net/annual\\_conference.asp](http://www.ilsna.net/annual_conference.asp).

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## **HealthierUS School Challenge Curricula Reimbursement Funding Opportunity Extended-Apply Today!**

The Request for Applications (RFA) for the HealthierUS School Challenge Curricula (HUSCC) Reimbursement Program has been extended until funding is depleted.

Fifty Team Nutrition schools, statewide will receive up to \$650 to purchase approved nutrition, physical education and wellness curricula or educational software that will assist the schools in meeting the nutrition education/physical education and physical activity criteria in the HUSCC initiative.

The reimbursement program RFA is posted at [www.isbe.net/funding\\_opps/htmls/rfp.htm](http://www.isbe.net/funding_opps/htmls/rfp.htm). If you have questions regarding this grant, contact Joan Love at [jlove@isbe.net](mailto:jlove@isbe.net) or (217) 782-2491.

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## **View the Whole Grain Requirements Webinar**

USDA Food and Nutrition Services' webinar recording [Whole Grain Resource for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs](http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/hsmrs/wholegrainresourcewebinar/story.html) located at <http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/hsmrs/wholegrainresourcewebinar/story.html> is available to view at your leisure. This webinar highlights the whole grain requirements of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). *The Whole Grain Resource for NSLP/SBP* at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/whole-grain-resource> is discussed as well as supporting resources, how to calculate ounce equivalents, and 18 questions with answers are provided.

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## Sodium Reduction Resources

USDA Food and Nutrition Service has recently updated its resource listing on Sodium Reduction on the Team Nutrition's Healthy Meal Resource System Web Site. The list includes recipes, guides for reducing sodium, limiting high sodium foods, menu planning, Fact Sheets, and much more.

<http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/menu-planning/sodium-reduction>



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## Bookmark Special Events for School Year 2014-2015

The School Nutrition Association has announced the themes for National School Lunch Week and National School Breakfast Week. Details with Web site links are detailed below. Mark the dates below in your calendar, gather your committee, and begin to plan how your school will be celebrating SY15 special events.

	<p>October 13-17, 2014 National School Lunch Week (NSLW)</p> <p><i>GET IN THE GAME with SCHOOL LUNCH-</i></p> <p><a href="http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Level2_NSLW2014.aspx?id=19888">http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Level2_NSLW2014.aspx?id=19888</a></p>
	<p>March 2-6, 2015 National School Breakfast Week (NSBW)</p> <p><i>Make the Grade with School Breakfast-</i></p> <p><a href="http://schoolnutrition.org/Content.aspx?id=20151">http://schoolnutrition.org/Content.aspx?id=20151</a></p>
	<p>May 4-8, 2015 School Nutrition Employee Week</p> <p>School Nutrition Association</p> <p><a href="http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Level2_SNEW2013.aspx?id=18422">http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Level2_SNEW2013.aspx?id=18422</a></p>

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Looking to Learn More about Farm to School?

Many schools throughout the United States and Illinois are either currently participating in farm to school activities or they are investigating the what, how and when of farm to school. Farm to school can mean a wide variety of things from purchasing local foods, to school gardens, to education in the classrooms and any combination of all of those things. Often the first step is to do some research to see what resources are out there, what are other schools doing and how do I get started? The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is a great place to start! They have a wide range of resources for schools. Visit their [webpage](#) for more info on the following topics:

- USDA Farm to School Census – see what schools in each state are doing or planning to do with farm to school.
- Fact Sheets on the following topics:
  - Farm to School at USDA
  - USDA Farm to School Grants
  - Farm to School Resources
  - 10 Facts about Local Food in Schools
  - Using DoD Fresh to Buy Local
  - Geographic Preference: What It Is and How To Use It
  - Selling Local Food to Schools: A Resource for Producers
  - USDA Foods: A Resource for Buying Local
  - How Cooperative Extension Professionals Can Support Farm to School
- Recorded webinars are available for your viewing at anytime
- Additional Resources Available Include:
  - Farm to School Team
  - Vision, Goals, and Context
  - Local Foods Procurement
  - Menu Planning
  - Food Safety
  - Promotion & Outreach
  - School Gardens
  - Education/Curriculum Integration
  - Evaluation, and
  - Program Sustainability
  -

Another great resource is the [Farm to School Network](#), where you can learn about activities going on throughout the United States and right here in Illinois! There is information available on their website for resources, policies, news and information by state. Input is provided from a team of state partners, which include:

- [University of Illinois Extension](#)
- State Department of Public Health
- State Department of Agriculture
- [Illinois State Board of Education](#)
- [Illinois Stewardship Alliance](#)
- Heartland Local Food Network
- Organic School Project
- [Family Farmed](#), and
- [Seven Generations Ahead](#)
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Hopefully, reviewing some of the resources provided in this article will help to get your farm to school project started. No project is too small, find what may work for you to get the ball rolling and see

where it leads you. If you have already started a farm to school project, please share your story with us! It is great to hear real stories from schools in Illinois and to be able to share that information with others. If you would like to share what you are doing with farm to school please email Lindsay at [lblough@isbe.net](mailto:lblough@isbe.net). Thank you and enjoy the summer!

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## Seventh Annual Wellness Conference Well Attended

Almost 200 persons participated in last month's Seventh Annual Illinois School Wellness Conference, Every Kid Healthy, held in Champaign through this partnership with ISBE Nutrition and Wellness Programs and Action for Healthy kids. Opening the day was Rob Bisceglie, Action for Healthy Kids CEO. Dr. Barbara Fiese, Director of the Family Resiliency Center, University of Illinois and Lauren Raine, I-TOPP Scholar and Public Health PhD candidate provided research on engaging children, families and communities in Healthy living. Attendees had the opportunity to choose sessions from five different tracks: Coordinated School Health, Nutrition, Early Childhood, Physical Activity and School Breakfast/School Health Services.

The buffet luncheon honored awardees of the Robin A. Orr Partnership Awards through the Interagency Nutrition Council. Participants networked with exhibitors and some lucky attendees received raffle items.



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## School Health Fact Sheets Available

The Center for Disease Control and (CDC) Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) have developed 24 fact sheets reporting results from the 2012 School Health Policies and Practices Study (SHPPS) which are posted at [www.cdc.gov/shpps](http://www.cdc.gov/shpps).

The release includes 7 fact sheets that report national results on the following **components** of school health:

- Faculty and staff health promotion
- Health education
- Health services
- Mental health and social services
- Nutrition services
- Physical education
- Physical school environment

The release also includes 17 fact sheets that report national results on the following **topics** across all components of school health:

- Alcohol- or other drug-use prevention
- Asthma
- Crisis preparedness
- Food safety
- Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention
- Infectious disease prevention and control
- Injury prevention and safety
- Nutrition
- Physical activity
- Pregnancy prevention
- School health coordination
- School nutrition environment
- Sexually transmitted disease (STD) prevention
- Students with disabilities
- Suicide prevention
- Tobacco prevention and control
- Violence prevention

The full report is available at [http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/shpps/2012/pdf/shpps-results\\_2012.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/shpps/2012/pdf/shpps-results_2012.pdf). For more information about SHPPS, visit their website at [www.cdc.gov/shpps](http://www.cdc.gov/shpps), call 800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636), or email [nccddashinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:nccddashinfo@cdc.gov).

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## TEAM NUTRITION Cookbooks are now available in print!



Recipes for 50 and 100 servings cookbook for schools FREE for those participating in a child nutrition program. Get yours at [www.teamnutrition.usda.gov](http://www.teamnutrition.usda.gov). Choose the **Resource Order Form** for print copies or **download** from the Resource Library.

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**Calendar of Events**



## June 2014

- 10 Begin submitting May claims for reimbursement. ALL May child nutrition program claims (original and revised) must be received by ISBE no later than July 30, 2014. June claims must be received by ISBE no later than August 29, 2014.
- 18-19 ISBE Board Meeting—North Chicago <http://www.isbe.net/board/default.htm>
- 24-26 Illinois School Nutrition Association (ILSNA) Annual Conference  
Springfield, Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center and the Prairie  
Capitol Convention Center [http://www.ilsna.net/annual\\_conference.asp](http://www.ilsna.net/annual_conference.asp)



### Nutrition and Wellness Programs

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*Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).*

*For any other information dealing with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) issues, persons should either contact the USDA SNAP Hotline Number at (800) 221-5689, which is also in Spanish or call the [State Information/Hotline Numbers](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/contact_info/hotlines.htm) (click the link for a listing of hotline numbers by State); found online at [http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/contact\\_info/hotlines.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/contact_info/hotlines.htm).*

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