

THE UTLOOK

Your Guide to School-Based Child Nutrition Programs

December 2012

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Administrative Alerts

Talk-It-Up Tuesday Webinars!

As a reminder, we continue to offer ***Talk It Up Tuesday*** Webinars. Please mark your calendar with dates below and join ISBE's Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division staff as we discuss hot topics, provide new information, and address frequently asked questions! These webinars will be offered the third Tuesday of each month through May from 2:00-3:00 pm. and are an open forum to hear from schools and to address any questions and/or concerns school may have regarding the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs.

- December 18, 2012
- January 15, 2013
- February 19, 2013
- March 19, 2013
- April 16, 2013
- May 21, 2013

Register monthly at <http://www.isbe.net/nutrition> (under *Upcoming Webinars*).

SY14 Annual Commodity Order Period Is Here

The Illinois Commodity System (ICS) will be accepting orders beginning December 15, 2012 for the 2013-2014 school year. Due to time constraints placed on States by the USDA, we must require that you have your order completed by **Thursday January 31, 2013**. Schools that choose to divert commodities to processors should watch the ICS message board carefully on February 8, 2013 for important information and dates. Orders placed with processors that do not get trucks can be changed to those processors that are getting trucks from **February 8th through February 18th**. If you placed an order with a processor that didn't get a truck, that order will be zeroed out.

If you have questions regarding the annual order process, contact the Food Distribution Program Staff at (217) 782-2491.

NSLP Verification Summary Report Update

The ISBE Verification Summary Report (VSR) is currently unavailable. ISBE does not have a release date set for the VSR, but it is expected to be available in December. Since there has been a delay in the release, the submission deadline has been extended to January 15, 2013.

Verification Completion Deadlines

Each year local education agencies are required to have completed verification activities no later than November 15 in preparation for completing the online verification summary report that is due January 15, 2013.

Verification Timeline:

- **October 1**-Count number of **approved applications** on file by category, and begin verification process. Applications that were to be counted are those that were approved for free or reduced benefits based on income or a SNAP or TANF ID number being provided on the application. This count should be taken no later than the close of business on October 1.
Prior to doing the application count, it was recommended that all LEAs access the Electronic Direct Certification system to directly certify as many students as possible. LEAs should have also tried to directly certify students whose current eligibility status for free or reduced price meals was based on the use of a household eligibility application. ***Any students that can be transferred to direct certification status*** should not have had their household eligibility application included in the October 1, application count because they would then be considered to a directly certified student.
- **Last operating day of October**-Count number of **ALL** free and reduced-price eligible **students** by category. This information will be needed when the Verification Summary Report (VSR) is completed. **ALL** schools in the National School Lunch Program (including Provision and CEO schools) will need to be prepared to provide student counts.
- **November 15**-LEAs must ensure their part of the verification process is complete, all materials collected and verified for each household selected for verification.
- **Tuesday, January 15, 2013**-Deadline to submit VSR. **This deadline has been extended** from the original December 15, 2012 deadline.

Verification efforts are not required under the following situations, but student counts may need to be provided:

- For children certified under the Direct Certification Process including children documented as eligible migrant, runaway, homeless, or Head Start
- For children in residential child care institutions(RCCIs) except for locations that have applications for day students attending the institution
- In schools only participating in the Special Milk Program
- In schools only participating in Illinois Free programs
- In schools in which all students are served with no separate charge for food service and no special cash assistance is claimed; i.e., non-pricing programs claiming only the paid rate of reimbursement
- In LEAs in which all schools participate in Provisions 1, 2, or 3, except in those years in which applications are taken for all students in attendance; i.e., the base year
- In LEAs in which all schools participate in the Community Eligibility Option

For complete step by step instructions on how to complete the verification process please visit http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/forms_sbn.htm.

The Melting Pot

Grant Application from Share Our Strength and the Illinois No Kid Hungry Campaign to Expand Participation in School Breakfast

Grants will support schools with the purchase of approved equipment, materials and initiatives facilitating alternative breakfast delivery models (such as in-classroom breakfast, grab-n-go, or second chance breakfast) in an effort to increase student participation in universal school breakfast. Applying schools must either be implementing or be prepared to implement an alternative breakfast delivery model. Grants will be awarded up to \$5,000 on a rolling basis. For more information or to apply, please visit the Illinois No Kid Hungry website at <http://il.nokidhungry.org/grants-school-breakfast>

School Breakfast Challenge 2012-2013

All Illinois schools participating in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) are eligible and are automatically entered to participate in the Illinois Breakfast Challenge. Winners will be announced in April of 2013. **Participation increase will be calculated by comparing the SBP participation rates from January - May of 2012 to August - December of 2012.** Awards will be given to schools with the largest percentage increases in average daily participation rates. There will be four tiers for the Challenge with each tier awarding three prizes: \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$1,000.

For more information, please visit <http://il.nokidhungry.org/>.

Funding Opportunity to Take the HealthierUS School Challenge- Due January 22, 2013

The Division of Nutrition and Wellness Programs is pleased to announce a 2012 Team Nutrition and Training funding opportunity for schools to take the HealthierUS School Challenge. Fifty minigrants of \$940.00 will be awarded to eligible schools to help them prepare to meet the HealthierUS School Challenge criteria in FY2013-2014; and submit a HUSSC application. The Request for Proposal for competitive grant is posted at www.isbe.net/nutrition, under *What's New* or http://www.isbe.net/funding_opps/htmls/rfp.htm. The grant period begins February 1, 2013, and ends June 30, 2014. The HealthierUS School Challenge criteria chart is posted at http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/healthierus/2012criteria_chart.html.

Applications Available for Annual Green Ribbon Schools Award Program- Due December 17

For the second year, Illinois is proud to be participating in the U.S. Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools program. The program recognizes schools taking a comprehensive approach to greening. A comprehensive approach incorporates environmental learning with improving environment and health impacts.

Participating schools will be scored on their high achievement in the following three pillars:

- Reduce environmental impact and costs; and
- Improve the health and wellness of students and staff; and

- Provide effective environmental and sustainability education, incorporating STEM, civic skills and green career pathways.

Schools demonstrating exemplary achievement in all three pillars will receive the highest rankings. Applications are available at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/green_ribbon and are due at the Illinois State Board of Education by Dec. 17. **Please note:** If you close the application without completing it you will not be able to go back and finish. For your convenience we suggest you use the materials at this link : http://web-dev.isbe.state.il.us/green_ribbon/ as your draft copy so you can return to it and continue working on it.

For more information, visit <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html>.

NASBE RELEASES TWO CRITICAL NEW SCHOOL HEALTH POLICY GUIDES RELATED TO PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND HEALTHY EATING

As states and districts mobilize to fight childhood obesity, the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) is releasing two new chapters in its *[Fit, Healthy, and Ready to Learn](#)* series of school health policy guides. Developed with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), these updates to chapters on physical activity and healthy eating are especially timely given recent and coming changes to federal policies and initiatives.

“Research has repeatedly shown that healthy students have a greater chance at academic success than those who are not,” said NASBE Executive Director Jim Kohlmoos. “While families naturally have primary responsibility for their children’s well-being, schools also have a vital role to play, and effective programs begin with sound policy. Physical activity and healthy eating need to be looked at as complementary policy areas to best help students lead healthier, more active lives.”

The guides, available at www.nasbe.org/fhrtl are rich with recent scientific data, analysis, examples of state and local best practices, and evidence-based model policies that can be adapted by schools, districts, and states. The guides also cover a wide array of topics, ranging from creating healthy eating environments and nutrition-related school services to what makes a quality physical education program, promoting active commuting to school and the importance of recess and other physical activity breaks. These chapters, which have been completely revised since their first editions were published in 2000, are essential tools for education leaders and school health professionals at all levels.

IL SCHOOL WINS FUEL UP TO PLAY CONTEST AND FEATURED ON NATIONAL TV!

One of Fuel Up to Play 60’s goals is to leverage powerful partnerships to help drive mass awareness around our program and reach both youth and adult audiences. They recently partnered with “Kinect for Xbox 360” and the NFL to sponsor the [Casting Call Challenge](#), where students and educators were asked to share how Fuel Up to Play 60 is making a healthy difference in their school, including dairy. From taste tests to mileage clubs, weekly community health and fitness nights and more, we were impressed with the fun and creative ways the program is being integrated into schools across the country.

After a review of more than 600 incredible success stories, **Ridge Family Center for Learning in Elk Grove, IL**, was named the grand prize winner and was featured on a “Kinect for Xbox 360” promotional spots in November and will be shown again on Sunday, December 2 on national TV. It will air during the 12pm (CST) game on Fox TV. It will be featured in the last

commercial break during the two-minute warning prior to halftime. This will bring the total estimated viewership to over 40 million!

Professional Development

6th Annual Illinois School Wellness and Recognition Conference Slated for May 3, 2013

Save the date of Friday, May 3, 2013, for the 6th Annual Illinois School Wellness and Recognition Conference at the Springfield Hilton. Watch the Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division website at www.isbe.net/nutrition for speaker and session announcements, registration information and more after the New Year.

Calendar of Events

December 2012

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|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10 | Submit monthly claim for reimbursement
http://www.isbe.net/funding/pdf/wins-claim-inst.pdf |
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| 13–20 | Make changes, if needed, for January commodity deliveries |
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| 18 | ISBE's "Talk It Up Tuesday" Webinar – 2:00–3:00 pm
Register at http://www.isbe.net/nutrition under <i>Upcoming Webinars</i> |
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| 25 | ISBE office closed in observance of Christmas |
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Nutrition and Wellness Programs

Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street, W-270
Springfield, IL 62777
Phone: 800/545-7892 or 217/782-2491
Fax: 217/524-6124
Email: cnp@isbe.net