

# THE UTLOOK

*Your Guide to School-Based Child Nutrition Programs*

## **December 2013**

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## Meal Service Mandates

There are **two meal service requirements** that may impact your school building this summer and/or the next school year.

### Summer Breakfast and/or Lunch Program

Public Act 096-0734 requires a school district to implement a summer breakfast and/or lunch program for the duration of the summer school program in all schools which as of October 2013 had 50 percent or more of the student population eligible for free or reduced-price meals AND operates a summer school program in that building. The school must feed the children in the summer school program and open the doors to the community for children 18 years of age and under.

ISBE administers two federal nutrition programs, the National School Lunch Program's Seamless Summer Option and the Summer Food Service Program to assist you in implementing a successful program and to supplement the cost of providing the program. For additional information on this legislation, including general questions regarding implementation and the opt-out provision, go to [http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/summer\\_reqs\\_policies.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/summer_reqs_policies.htm).

### School Breakfast Program

Public Act 96-0158 requires each school district in this State to implement and operate a School Breakfast Program by the first day of the 2014-2015 school year in each school building within its district in which as of October 2013 had 40 percent or more of the students eligible for free or reduced-price lunches in the prior school year (FY14).

ISBE administers the federally-funded School Breakfast Program and the state-funded IL Free Breakfast Program to assist you in implementing a successful program and to supplement the cost of providing the program. For additional information on this legislation, including the opt-out provision, go to [http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/hb\\_756.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/hb_756.htm).

**To determine whether or not your school is required to operate the Summer and/or School Breakfast Program, FY2014 free and reduced-price eligibility percentages will be posted at [http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/eligibility\\_listings.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/eligibility_listings.htm) in January once October claims are finalized.**

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## NSLP Online Verification Summary Report NOW AVAILABLE!

Annually, all Sponsors operating the National School Lunch and/or School Breakfast Program must verify the eligibility of students that receive FREE or REDUCED PRICE meal benefits based on the use of a Household Eligibility Application. Once the verification process is completed, NSLP Sponsors must report the results of verification to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

The new online Verification Summary Report (VSR) is now available. The deadline to submit the results of the verification process to ISBE is Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Submission of incomplete or incorrect information or failure to submit the VSR may result in NSLP Sponsors having claim payments being withheld.

Directions related to the verification process and the completion of the online VSR, are available at [http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/forms\\_sbn.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/forms_sbn.htm). A recorded webinar explaining the new online VSR is also available for viewing at <http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/workshops.htm>, under the National School Lunch Program Archived Webinars heading.

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## Training Opportunities for School-Based Child Nutrition Programs

Every third Tuesday from 2:00pm – 3:30pm, ISBE’s Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division will host a webinar detailing a variety of NSLP regulations. In case this date and time is not convenient for you or your staff, each webinar will be recorded and archived for future viewing <http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/workshops.htm> (National School Lunch Program). Below is the list of training topics, along with registration information.

<b>Training Tuesday Webinars (July 2013 - May 2014)</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Registration Link</b>
7/16/2013	Benefit Issuance and Meal Counting	<b>Available under Archived Webinars</b>
8/20/2013	Electronic Direct Certification	
8/27/2013	Certification of Eligibility	
9/17/2013	Verification	
10/15/2013	NSLP/SBP Menu Planning	
11/19/2013	New Admin Review	
12/17/2013	USDA Foods	<a href="https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/787878049">https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/787878049</a>
1/21/2014	Implementing the School Breakfast Program	<a href="https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/529695209">https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/529695209</a>
2/18/2014	Heart Healthy Month - Focus on Fat and Sodium Reduction in School Meals	<a href="https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/636191192">https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/636191192</a>
3/18/2014	Paid Lunch Equity	<a href="https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/488502080">https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/488502080</a>
4/15/2014	Special Diets/Accommodations/Allergies	<a href="https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/164631233">https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/164631233</a>
5/20/2014	Local School Wellness Policies	<a href="https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/672001681">https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/672001681</a>

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## Food Distribution and the Illinois Commodity System Training

ISBE will host in-person trainings at the following seven locations that will focus on the Illinois Commodity System. This training will cover placing annual USDA Foods orders, diversions to processors, the Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, and additional monthly processes to teach better management of USDA foods.

- December 4 – Oak Lawn
- December 5 – Champaign
- December 18 – Rock Falls
- December 19 – Peoria
- January 15 – Marion
- January 16 – Fairview Heights

Registration is available at <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/nutrition/> under Upcoming Workshops.

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## **National School Breakfast Week, Take Time for Breakfast**

**March 3-7, 2014**

Begin making plans for the first week in March, March 3-7 to celebrate National School Breakfast Week. Visit the School Nutrition Association's website for a press release, menu, proclamation, web banners, and presentations for foodservice staff, presentations for stakeholders and more at [http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Level2\\_NSBW2014.aspx?id=18805](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Level2_NSBW2014.aspx?id=18805).

Download Free Posters for School Breakfast Outreach at [http://origin.drupal.fns.usda.gov/sbp/toolkit\\_marketingresources](http://origin.drupal.fns.usda.gov/sbp/toolkit_marketingresources).

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## **Guidance on Managing Food Allergies in Schools and Early Care and Education Centers**

As a result of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act, a new resource, announced recently by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) *Voluntary Guidelines for Managing Food Allergies in Schools and Early Care and Education Centers*, was developed with representatives from the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, The U.S. Department of Education, USDA, and the U.S. Department of Justice. The resource's purpose is to support implementation of food allergy management and prevention plans and practices for children in the above environments. It is available at [http://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/foodallergies/pdf/13\\_243135\\_A\\_Food\\_Allergy\\_Web\\_508.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/foodallergies/pdf/13_243135_A_Food_Allergy_Web_508.pdf).

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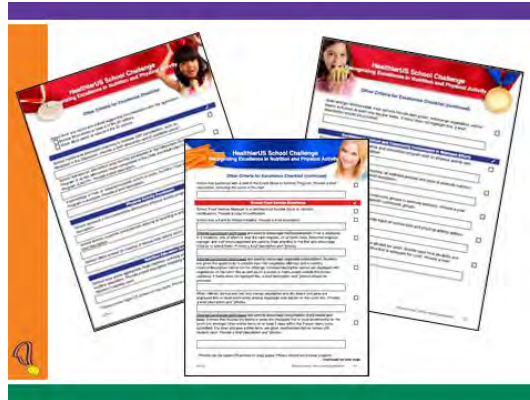
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## Sow It Forward Grant Application due January 5, 2014

Sponsored by the Maine nonprofit Kitchen Gardeners International (KGI), the *Sow It Forward* initiative is a grants and partnership program which offers 100 full and partial grants up to \$500 for seeds, supplies, books and online garden planning software to start a new food garden project or sustain an existing one. Schools interested in healthy foods, sustainability, as well as resilient communities are eligible to apply. Visit <http://kji.org/sow-it-forward> for the application, due January 5, 2014.

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## Kudos to Recent Certified HealthierUS School Challenge Schools

The following three Chicago Public School 299 schools have received the HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) Certification at the Bronze level:

- Agassiz Elementary School
- Belding Elementary School
- Mark Twain Elementary School

This voluntary initiative (HUSSC) demonstrates these schools' efforts to build healthier school environment through better nutrition and physical activity practices. If your school is interested in taking the HUSSC, visit <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/HealthierUS/application.html> for the application and resource materials. Contact [cnp@isbe.net](mailto:cnp@isbe.net) if you have specific questions regarding the application process.

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## HealthierUS School Challenge Curricula Reimbursement Program Available in 2014

USDA recently approved the Illinois Team Nutrition Training Grant 2012 amendment to provide grants up to \$650.00 each to 50 schools to purchase approved curricula that will assist the school in meeting the Nutrition Education/Physical Education criteria in the HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC). The awards will be distributed to 25 high school, 15 middle schools, and 10 K-12 and/or K-8 grade schools.

Criteria for the selection of the 50 schools to receive up to a \$650.00 reimbursement for purchases of approved nutrition, Food, Foodservice, health, and wellness curricula as follows:

- Must be a Team Nutrition School participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).
- Must complete and submit a brief application.
- Current certified HUSSC schools are not eligible.
- School(s) must implement the curriculum during the 2014-2015 school year.
- Complete a Post-Survey after implementing the curriculum by April 1, 2015 (takes 15 minutes to complete).

Reminder: As your school(s) plans curriculum schedules, consider inclusion of USDA's FREE Team Nutrition Education materials for elementary and middle schools, as detailed below.

#### Elementary Schools:

- Blast Off Game
- Dig In! (Grades 5-6)
- The Great Garden Detective Adventure (Grades 3-4)
- Maximizing the Message: Helping Moms and Kids Make Healthier Food Choices
- Serving Up MyPlate: A Yummy Curriculum
- Team Up at Home: Team Nutrition Activity Booklet

#### For Middle and High Schools

- Empowering Youth Manual
- Empowering Youth Online Modules
- Healthier Middle Schools: Everyone Can Help
- Nutrition Voyage: The Quest to Be Our Best
- The Power of Choice: Helping Youth Make Healthy Eating and Fitness Decisions
- Read It Before You Eat It Poster

#### For K-12 Schools

- Changing the Scene: Improving the School Nutrition Environment
- Eat Smart. Play Hard.™ Power Panther™
- Empowering Youth with Nutrition and Physical Activity-Online Modules
- Fruit and Vegetable Challenge Packet
- Making It Happen! School Nutrition Success Stories
- MyPlate for Kids: Make Half Your Plate Fruits and Vegetable Poster

The brief application will be posted after the New Year! For further information, check on the *What's New Section* on our division's website at [www.isbe.net/nutrition](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition) in January 2014.

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## **Bookmark Team Nutrition and Healthy Meals Resource System Websites**

Over 1,650 schools in Illinois have enrolled in USDA's Team Nutrition Initiative. Resources available through Team Nutrition can help school personnel serve healthy, appealing meals and meet updated nutrition standards, such as those called for by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act.

To learn more about Team Nutrition visit the following:

- Enroll your school at <http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/team.html>—it's free!
- Check the Team Nutrition resource library A to Z, for new materials and resources at <http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/library.html>

- Learn about Best Practices in the Best Practices Sharing Center at <http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/best-practices>

Did you know that the Healthy Meals Resource System, an online information center provides a section on Professional and Career Resources located at <http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/professional-career-resources> which provides a listing of online training opportunities, a conference calendar, grants, and newsletters and more!

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## Coloring Contest to Raise Awareness of Food Allergies

Healthline is currently running a campaign focusing on Food Allergies! Being that food allergies primarily affect this generation's youth, they have created a coloring contest as a fun way for children to identify and remember which foods to stay away from. You can see more information here: <http://www.healthline.com/health/allergies/coloring-contest>. For rules, scroll to the bottom of this page.

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## Calendar of Events

### DECEMBER 2013

- 4 Food Distribution and the Illinois Commodity System Training- Oak Lawn  
Register at <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/nutrition/> under *Upcoming Workshops*
- 5 Food Distribution and the Illinois Commodity System Training- Champaign  
Register at <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/nutrition/> under *Upcoming Workshops*
- 13-20 Make changes, if needed, for next month's USDA Foods delivery
- 16 Deadline for submission of Verification Summary Report (through WINS)
- 17 Training Tuesday Webinar – USDA Foods (Government Donated Commodities)  
2:00-3:30 pm  
Register at <http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/>
- 18 Food Distribution and the Illinois Commodity System Training- Rock Falls  
Register at <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/nutrition/> under *Upcoming Workshops*
- 19 Food Distribution and the Illinois Commodity System Training- Peoria  
Register at <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/nutrition/> under *Upcoming Workshops*
- 25 ISBE Office closed in observance of Christmas

### JANUARY 2014

- 1 ISBE Office closed in observance of New Year's Day

- 13-20 Make changes, if needed, for next month's USDA Foods delivery
- 15 Deadline to submit request to Regional Office of Education to opt-out of Summer Food Service Mandate
- 15 Food Distribution and the Illinois Commodity System Training- Marion  
Register at <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/nutrition/> under *Upcoming Workshops*
- 16 Food Distribution and the Illinois Commodity System Training- Fairview Heights  
Register at <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/nutrition/> under *Upcoming Workshops*
- 20 ISBE Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 21 Training Tuesday Webinar – Implementing the School Breakfast Program  
2:00-3:30 pm  
Register at <http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/>



### **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](mailto:cnp@isbe.net)

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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](#) (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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