

# The OUTLOOK

Nutrition Programs



Illinois State Board of Education

## Calling All Artists



School-Based Child Nutrition Programs staff is working on next year's calendar and needs help from your students. Keeping in line with nutrition, we would like to have your students draw a picture of their favorite school food/meal (the more nutritious the better)!

Have your students draw a picture of their favorite school food/meal and have them follow the guidelines below.

- Artwork is to be done on a white piece of paper (8½" x 11"); have them utilize as much of the paper as possible.
- Use crayons and/or markers (no colored pencils please). The more color the better!
- On the back include:
  - The student's first name, grade level, and school
  - The name of your child's favorite food/meal that was drawn

Please submit completed projects by February 1, 2010, to:  
 Nutrition Programs Division—Calendar  
 Illinois State Board of Education  
 100 North First Street (W-270)  
 Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001

bulletin board

### Important Dates

- January 29 Due date for Illinois Zero Waste Schools Grant Program Application [www.commerce.state.il.us/dceo.4](http://www.commerce.state.il.us/dceo.4)
- February 1 School year (SY) 2011 Annual Commodity Order Deadline

### Date Savers

The Childhood Hunger Relief Act Public Act 096-0734, (105ILCS 126/20) SummerFood Service Program Timeline

- March 1 Deadline for regional superintendents to:
- Inform the school district, in writing, of his or her decision, along with the reasons why the exemption was granted or denied.
  - Provide a listing to the Nutrition Programs Division of all districts that applied to *opt-out*, along with the affected schools, whether the exemption was *granted* or *denied*, and the reasons for the action.

April 1 Deadline for the Illinois State Superintendent of Education to hear appeals on the decisions of regional superintendents of schools.



## JANUARY 2010 — THE OUTLOOK

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Selected drawings will be displayed in next year's program calendar.

Thank you for your help in making next year's calendars a success. We are excited to see your students' masterpieces!

## Administration

### Questions and Answers

- Q. Is combat pay included as income when determining free and reduced-price meals in the Child Nutrition Programs?
- A. *Combat pay is defined as an additional payment made under Chapter 5 of Title 37 of the United States Code, or as otherwise designated by the Secretary to be excluded, that is received by the household member who is deployed to a designated combat zone. Combat pay is excluded if it is:*
- *Received in addition to the service member's basic pay;*
  - *Received as a result of the service member's deployment to or service in an area that has been designated as a combat zone; and*
  - *Not received by the service member prior to his/her deployment to or service in the designated combat zone.*

*A combat zone is any area that the President of the United States designates by Executive Order as an area in which the U.S. Armed Forces are engaging or have engaged in combat. Combat pay received by service members is normally reflected in the entitlements column of the military Leave and Earning Statement (LES). Information regarding deployment to or service in a combat zone may also be available through military orders or public records on deployment of military units. Deployed service members are considered members of the household for purposes of determining income eligibility for the Child Nutrition Programs.*

### Request for Residential Child Care Institution Licenses

If you are a residential child care institution (RCCI), the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is requesting a copy of your current license in order to update our system. A current license is required for each site that participates in the School-Based Child Nutrition Programs, unless it is

a state run facility or license exempt. A letter detailing the specific information needed was mailed to your sponsor in December. Please feel free to contact our office if you have any questions at 800.545.7892 or via email at [cnp@isbe.net](mailto:cnp@isbe.net).

### Claim Common Cents



Funding & Disbursement Services Division  
Phone 217/782-5256  
Fax 217/782-3910

### Continued Delays in State Reimbursement

The delay in State payments, including payments for the Illinois Free Lunch/Breakfast Program, has worsened from last year at this time. The Comptroller has issued, in part, the following information:

“Under optimal revenue conditions, or for payments from non-GRF funds, the Office of the Comptroller (IOC) can issue a warrant within two to four days after a proper voucher is presented to our office. However currently, substantially more GRF bills or vouchers have been submitted to the IOC than incoming revenues or cash on hand permits to be processed on a timely basis. We do not anticipate that there will be sufficient GRF revenues to significantly reduce current payment backlogs for the near future.

“At this time, these delays are in excess of 105 business days and are expected to increase over the next several months. The IOC recognizes the considerable difficulties created by these conditions and asks for the continued cooperation of all parties concerned to address a situation that is beyond our office's control.”

The oldest fiscal year (FY) 2010 Illinois Free Lunch/Breakfast vouchers waiting to be paid are dated August 11, 2009. All vouchers from FY2009 have been paid.

The delays do NOT affect Federal reimbursement for the National School Lunch, Breakfast, and Milk Programs. Federal funds are being processed by the Comptroller within the normal time frames of two to four days after vouchered. We will continue to voucher the Illinois Free Lunch/Breakfast Programs on a regular basis with the Federal programs, but be advised that delays in State pay-

ments will continue to occur for the foreseeable future.

If you have questions regarding your State or Federal payments for the Child Nutrition Programs, please contact Carol Curto or Gladys Rothenberg at 217.782.5256.

## Food Distribution

### School Year 2011 Annual Commodity Order Period Is Here

The Illinois Commodity System (ICS) will be accepting orders beginning January 4, 2010, for next school year. Due to time constraints placed on States by the USDA, we must require that you complete your order by **Monday, February 1, 2010**.

Schools that choose to divert commodities to processors should watch the ICS Message Board carefully starting in February for important news regarding processors that are receiving trucks of commodities and those that are not. Orders placed with processors that do not receive trucks can be changed to those processors that are receiving trucks from **February 6 through February 14**. If you placed an order with a processor that did not receive a truck, that order will be deleted.

You can call Food Distribution Program staff at 217.782.2491 if you have any questions regarding the annual order process.

## Food Service and Nutrition

### National School Breakfast Week, *School Breakfast—Ready, Set, Go!* March 8–12, 2010

What helps children read, play, learn, run, and dream . . . serving breakfast every school day. National School Breakfast Week, celebrated March 8–12, 2010, provides the opportunity to acknowledge staff involved in preparing and serving breakfasts to help students perform academically, emotionally, and socially. This year's theme is *School Breakfast—Ready, Set, Go!* As an added incentive to participate, the School Nutrition Association (SNA) is offering a drawing contest through March 12. The SNA is also providing campaign information, menus, proclamations, a Power Up With School Breakfast sweepstakes, activity sheets, and stickers at [www.schoolnutrition.org](http://www.schoolnutrition.org).



This year's National School Breakfast Week menus follow:

- Monday—Mighty Muffin Squares (blueberry oat meal recipe available)
- Tuesday—Souped-up Cereal
- Wednesday—Fuel Up With French Toast (recipe available)
- Thursday—Breakfast Burrito Boost (recipe available)
- Friday—Get Up and Go With Granola (recipe available) and Yogurt

For recipes, visit [www.schoolnutrition.org](http://www.schoolnutrition.org).

### National Nutrition Month® *Nutrition From the Ground Up* March 2010



The American Dietetic Association announces this year's theme for National Nutrition Month®, in March, *Nutrition From the Ground Up*. The theme reminds Americans of the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits. For more information, go to [www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org).

## Grants, Awards, and Honors

### Innovations for Healthy Kids Challenge, Spring 2010 Deadline

Open to the public, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services (FNCS) is requesting submittal of completed web-based games that motivate tweens, students 9–12 years of age, to eat healthy. The web-based games must use the nutrition concepts from the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the MyPyramid Food Guidance System as well as USDA's dataset of 1,000 of the most common food items. Cash awards will be provided to four winners in the gold, silver, bronze, and popular choice categories. For more information, go to [www.cnpp.usda.gov/Innovations/Innovations.htm](http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/Innovations/Innovations.htm).

### Twenty One Schools Receive HealthierUS School Challenge Mini-Grants

Congratulations to the 21 Illinois elementary schools that have been awarded grants from the Illinois Nutrition Education and Training (NET) Program in preparation to take the *HealthierUS School Challenge* during the 2010–2011 school year. The *HealthierUS School*

*Challenge* is a voluntary recognition program from USDA Food and Nutrition Service that recognizes outstanding achievement in healthier school environments. The Illinois NET Program is supported by the Illinois State Board of Education and the mini-grants have been provided by a 2009 USDA Team Nutrition Training grant. Winning schools are listed below.

School	County	Award Amount
Academy for Global Citizenship	Cook	\$3,500
Algonquin Lakes Elementary School	McHenry	\$3,294
Chester-East Lincoln School	Logan	\$3,500
Dundee Highlands Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Eastview Elementary School	McHenry	\$3,294
Gary D. Wright Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Gilberts Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Golfview Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Hampshire Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Lake in the Hills Elementary School	McHenry	\$3,294
Lakewood School	Kane	\$3,294
LeRoy Elementary School	McLean	\$3,500
Liberty Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Lincoln Prairie Elementary School	McHenry	\$3,294
Meadowdale Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Neubert Elementary School	McHenry	\$3,294
Parkview Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Perry Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Richmond School	Kane	\$3,500
Sleepy Hollow Elementary School	Kane	\$3,294
Westfield Community School	Kane	\$3,294

For more information on the *HealthierUS School Challenge*, please visit the USDA Team Nutrition website at <http://teamnnutrition.usda.gov/HealthierUS/index.html>.

## Share Your Wellness Policy Success Stories!

The bottom line with successful wellness policies is implementation and evaluation to bring about effective measurable changes related to nutrition, nutrition education, and physical activity. We are looking for effective strategies that Illinois schools are using to implement and evaluate their wellness policies. Please help us by submitting your Wellness Policy Success Story. Complete the simple submission form at [www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/share.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/share.htm) and email the form to [cnp@isbe.net](mailto:cnp@isbe.net) or fax it to Nutrition Programs at 217.524.6124. We plan to post these stories on our website so others may learn from your experiences. Thank you for sharing your wellness policy experiences with us!

## Training, Tips, and Tools

### *Serving It Safe*, Third Edition Now Available

The third edition of *Serving It Safe* can provide food service staff at all levels with a current source of information for managing a safe and sanitary food service operation. The table of contents for the *Serving It Safe*

manual at the link listed below can be used to quickly locate information about food safety.

*Serving It Safe* has been used for conducting employee training since the first edition, *Serving It Safe: A Manager's Tool Kit*, published in 1996. A second edition was published in 2002, and reprinted in 2004 to reflect federal food code changes. The current third edition was revised and published in 2009 and reviewed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Drug Administration, and the National Food Service Management Institute.

For additional information on the third edition of *Serving It Safe* and other food safety training materials, please visit <http://www.nfsmi.org/ResourceOverview.aspx?ID=327>.

## Nutrition Education and Training Advisory Council Holds Meeting

This past November, Illinois Nutrition Education and Training held its first FY2010 Advisory Council Meeting. Illinois NET staff, Deb Rees, Illinois NET Coordinator, and Christine Cliff, a NET Nutrition Specialist, facilitated the meeting.

The FY2010 Illinois NET Advisory Council members are:

- Linda Bridgman—Illinois Association for the Education of Young Children
- Donna D'Camp—Illinois School Nutrition Association
- Patti Elste—Illinois Child Care Bureau
- Carol Longley—Western Illinois University
- Joan Love—Illinois State Board of Education, Nutrition Programs
- Jennifer Becker-Mouhcine—Illinois After-School Partnership
- Marian Myers—Illinois Association of School Nurses
- Glenn Steinhausen—Illinois Action for Healthy Kids

NET staff introduced members to the NET's programs, grant projects, and resources. The Advisory Council members serve as NET advocates and provide guidance on materials, resources, and services offered statewide.

## Date Saver—School Wellness Conference This Spring

Tuesday, May 4, 2010, is the date of the third annual School Wellness From A to Z conference to be held in Decatur at the Decatur Hotel and Conference Center. Watch for the agenda and registration information soon at [www.isbe.net/nutrition](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition) and [www.actionforhealthykids.org](http://www.actionforhealthykids.org); click on *Illinois* to get to the state webpages.



## School Wellness Programs, From to Z Continued

As indicated in the November issue of *The Outlook*, we are including descriptions of the numerous wellness and health initiatives, projects, and programs to be highlighted at the May 4, 2010, *Illinois School Wellness From A to Z Conference* in Decatur. Read about four initiatives below.

- Leadership in School Nutrition—Dairy Management, Inc. and Dairy Foods  
<http://www.lisn-awards.org/>  
The Leadership in School Nutrition (LISN) award acknowledges and promotes positive partnerships between dairy processors and schools through innovations in milk programming using kid-appealing plastic packaging, nationally known as the New Look of School Milk.
- March Nutrition Month—Illinois Interagency Nutrition Council  
<http://inc.aces.illinois.edu/>  
For March Nutrition Month, the Illinois Interagency Nutrition Council (INC) reviews nominations of programs/partnerships that promote healthy eating and regular physical activity, representing a variety of entities such as schools, child care centers, health centers, hospitals, extension, and more!
- The President's Challenge, Physical Activity and Fitness Demonstration Centers  
<http://www.presidentschallenge.org>  
The President's Challenge has rewarded and motivated millions of youth since its inception in 1966. It consists of four separate programs: Physical Fitness Test, Health Fitness Test, Active Lifestyle Program, and Presidential Champions Program.
- President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports  
[www.fitness.gov](http://www.fitness.gov)  
This Council promotes health, physical activity, fitness, and enjoyment for all persons representing diverse backgrounds and abilities through participation in physical activity and sports.

**Volunteer With Action for Healthy Kids Now**  
[www.actionforhealthykids.org](http://www.actionforhealthykids.org)

Visit the website above, click on *In Your State* to learn more about how you can make a difference in schools to help students eat healthier, and become more physically active. The Illinois teams' goals are:

- Educate students on healthy living and how to make changes in their school to impact health.
- Train schools to use *Fuel Up to Play 60* to increase awareness of wellness programs in schools.
- Recruit community members to become change agents for health in their school communities.

Over 350 persons have joined to date, as advocates, contributors, to attend ILAFHK events, and more. So do not delay. Make it a 2010 New Year's resolution!

## Calendar of Events—February 2010

	Complete the meal count edit prior to submission of the Claim for Reimbursement
1	Deadline for multi-site sponsors to complete On-Site Reviews
1	Deadline to place upcoming school year's Annual Commodity Order. Access the Illinois Commodity System at <a href="http://www.isbe.net/business.htm">http://www.isbe.net/business.htm</a> , under <i>Resources</i> , click on <i>Illinois Commodity System Food Distribution Program</i> to complete the Annual Commodity Order.
10	Submit Claim for Reimbursement
13–20	Make changes, if needed, for March commodity deliveries
15	Deadline to petition your Regional Office of Education to request (if desired) an exemption from operating the School Breakfast Program in the next school year. See <i>School Breakfast Program Mandate</i> article for more information.
15	Deadline to develop and keep on file the district plan to conduct a summer lunch and/or breakfast program for each school where at least 50 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals AND that have a summer school program.
15	Sign up for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) training if participating in the SFSP. Visit <a href="http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/summer.htm">www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/summer.htm</a> .
24	SFSP Current Sponsor Orientation—Marion
25	SFSP New Sponsor and New Staff Training—Marion