

THE OUTLOOK



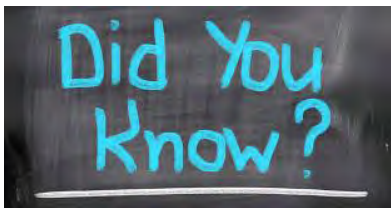
Illinois
State Board
of Education

A Monthly Newsletter for School Nutrition and Wellness Programs



ADMINISTRATIVE ALERTS

Please Provide Requested Data on Claim for Reimbursement Reports



On your claim for reimbursement each month, the report asks for some data. In the statistics section we ask for

your enrollment by program that the site participates in (National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Afterschool Snacks, and Special Milk Program).

Please provide the enrollment of how many students have access to that program. For example, if the school building had a pre-k program that is half day and does not have access to the lunch program, do not include the pre-k in the enrollment for the lunch program. If however, that pre-k program does have access to the breakfast program then you would include them in the breakfast program enrollment.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

FY 17 Farm to School Grants Application Deadline is Dec. 8

On Sept. 13, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that up to \$5 million in grant funds is available to help schools create or strengthen farm to school programs this school year. Administered by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, these annual, competitive grants will help further USDA efforts to increase locally sourced foods in school meals.

WHAT'S NEW ONLINE?

- [SNP Mosaic School Menu Planning and Inventory Management Software](#) – Sign Up for FREE Today!
- [SNP Verification Summary Report](#) – Now Available!
- [Q & A: Purchasing Goods and Services Using Cooperative Agreements, Agents, and Third-Party Services](#)
- [USDA Foods Exhibit and Workshop](#) – January 2017

The Farm to School Grant Program was authorized in the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. To date, the USDA has funded 300 projects in all 50 states; Washington, DC; and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Since its inception in fiscal year 2013, more than \$20 million has been awarded through the Farm to School Grant Program.

This year, awards ranging from \$20,000 to \$100,000 will be distributed in four different grant categories: Planning, Implementation, Support Service, and Training.

Applications are due by Dec. 8, 2016. Visit the [grants homepage](#) or the [October Outlook](#) for more information.

IN THE NEWS

Illinois School Districts Receive Fuel Up to Play 60 School Nutrition Grants

On Oct. 27, representatives from the Illinois State Board of Education, Midwest Dairy Council, Aramark, and Community Unit School District 308 gathered at the CUSD administrative center in Oswego to present a check for more than \$93,000 to fund the expansion of school breakfast programs across the state.



These funds were awarded to schools in Illinois as part of the 2016 Fuel Up to Play 60 School Nutrition Grant Program and were given in recognition of the state's efforts to ensure all students have access to more nutritious foods.

Illinois Dairy farmer Ethan Heinzmann presented the check for \$93,080 to two representatives from ISBE: Dr. Kate Anderson Foley, Assistant Superintendent of Specialized Instruction, Nutrition, and Wellness; and Mark Haller, Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division Administrator.

The grants were distributed to eight qualifying school districts throughout the state to fund innovative programs like Breakfast After the Bell or to add new school menu offerings, such as yogurt-based smoothies. Districts receiving the grants include:

- Chicago Public SD 299
- East Aurora SD 131
- Elgin SD U46
- J. Sterling Morton HS District 201
- Oak Park & River Forest SD 200
- CUSD 308
- Peoria SD 150
- Ridgeview Schools CUSD 19

Fuel Up to Play 60 School Nutrition Grants were available to qualifying K-12 schools enrolled in the Fuel Up to Play 60 program. Visit FuelUpToPlay60.com to learn more.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

ISBE Those Who Excel Award-Winners Include School Nutrition Professionals

ISBE annually sponsors [Those Who Excel](#) to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools in Illinois. Local school district leaders and members of school communities nominate candidates. This month we are highlighting two of the school nutrition professionals receiving awards.



Kathleen Becker, School Lunch Coordinator at Willow Bend School in Community Consolidated School District 15, received a Those Who Excel Award of Excellence in the Educational Service Personnel category from the Illinois State Board of Education.

One of the young students at Willow Bend had this to say about Mrs. Becker in a letter of recommendation: "She is a one-of-a-kind lunch lady and we are lucky to have her at our school."

Susan Malley, Director of Food Service at Woodstock Community Unit School District 200, was presented with an Award of Meritorious Service for Educational Service Personnel.

"Ms. Malley continually seeks ways to improve her skills and expertise, and consistently enhances our students' lives through her dedication and quality work," stated Mark Heckmon, Associated Superintendent of Woodstock CUSD 200, in a nominating letter.

A complete list of the 250 Those Who Excel award-winners is online at <http://www.isbe.net/those-who-excel/2017/those-who-excel-awards16-17.pdf>. Excellence, Meritorious Service, and Special Recognition awards are presented in seven categories: classroom teacher, school administrator/principal, student support personnel (licensed), educational service personnel (unlicensed), school board member/community volunteer; team, and early career educator.

USDA FOODS

Illinois Commodity System SY 18 Order Period Set for Jan. 5 to Feb. 20

The Illinois Commodity System (ICS) will be ready for you to place your SY 18 Annual USDA Foods Order from Jan. 5 to Feb. 20, 2017.

PLEASE NOTE: SCHOOLS THAT DIVERT TO PROCESSORS – All diversions must be placed by Feb. 5. The Diversion to Processor form will be “locked” from Feb. 6-10 while we compile the list of eligible processors for SY 18. The diversion screen will then be “unlocked” from Feb. 11-20 for

final adjustments if needed. Now would be a great time to take a look at your current balances on K12 Foodservice and ProcessorLink to start preparing!

The SY 18 USDA Foods Exhibit and Workshops are scheduled for Jan. 10 and 12. Food Distribution Program staff will be available to answer any questions you might have regarding the ICS and placing your annual order. Please see the message on the ICS message board for further details.

Watch for messages posted on ICS with further details closer to and during the order period.

Registration Underway for USDA Foods Exhibit and Workshop

The Illinois State Board of Education’s Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division will host a USDA Foods Exhibit and Workshop:

- **Jan. 10 in Collinsville**
- **Jan. 12 in Glen Ellyn**

The theme of the event is “Explore the Possibilities.” This full day exhibit and workshop will provide school nutrition professionals the opportunity to learn about USDA Foods processed products available through the Food Distribution Program from Industry Partners. In addition, continuing education hours will be available for breakout session topics that will be ongoing through the day for all school nutrition professionals.

Registration for attendees is now available; visit www.isbe.net/nutrition, and select “FDP – USDA Foods Exhibit and Workshop” under “Child Nutrition Program Workshops.”

Up to six hours of USDA annual continuing education will be available for full-day attendees. This workshop is being planned with the assistance of the University of Illinois Extension and the Illinois School Nutrition Association.

If you have any questions, ISBE School Nutrition Programs staff can be reached at (800) 545-7892 or cnp@isbe.net.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Get Tickets for Farm to School Day Events at Northern Illinois Food Bank

The Illinois Farm to School Network recently announced a Farm to School Day set for March 3 at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in Geneva.



The day features family activities, workshops, and more. Local garden hero Shauna Coronado will be the keynote speaker.

Learn more and sign up for tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/farm-to-school-day-tickets-29486081664>.

NUTRITION & WELLNESS RESOURCES

Local School Wellness Policy Resources Available for Schools

Download the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Team Nutrition toolkit of communication materials that you can customize to make specific to your school.

Toolkit contents:

- Letter to the principal from local wellness policy coordinators
- Newsletter article
- Parent handouts (English and Spanish)
- Presentations for school staff and parents
- Social media graphics and posts

Go to <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/local-school-wellness-policy-outreach-toolkit> to get started.

Local education agencies (LEAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program are required to develop a Wellness Policy with the objectives of improving the school nutrition environment, promoting student health, and reducing childhood obesity.

For more information, visit http://isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/wellness_policy.htm.



Sign Up for the New Smarter Lunchroom Movement Newsletter

The Smarter Lunchrooms Movement has a new e-newsletter. [Check it out online by clicking here](#) or [sign up online for future issues](#).

The latest issue features “5 Easy Ways to Get Students to Eat More Fruits.” A new issue will be delivered every two months.

The Smarter Lunchroom Movement is brought to you by the Cornell Center for Behavioral Economics in Child Nutrition Program. Visit them online at <http://smarterlunchrooms.org/homepage>.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Institute of Child Nutrition Plans Training Sessions for Next Year

The [Institute of Child Nutrition](#) is offering free training sessions in Oxford, Miss, in 2017. Click on

the session dates below to register and for more information.

- **“Procurement in the 21st Century”** is a two-day training that provides general concepts about the procurement of goods, products, and services for school nutrition programs. The session is set for [Feb. 21-22](#). (16 units of continuing education)
- **“Foundations for Training Excellence”** is an eight-hour training intended for those who wish to be a more effective trainer. The training is set for [Feb. 23](#). (8 units of continuing education)
- **“Orientation to School Nutrition Management”** is 4.5 days of training for new and aspiring directors that provides an overview of the management components of school nutrition programs. The training is offered [Jan. 9-13](#), [March 13-17](#), and [June 12-16](#). Registration for these trainings has reached capacity, although there are waiting lists available. (30.5 units of continuing education).

Contact Lisa Rogers at lrogers@olemiss.edu for more information.

USDA Food Nutrition Service Announces Upcoming Webinar

The webinar “Solicitations and Contracts With a Food Service Management Company” is set for 1-2 p.m. (Central time) **Monday, Dec. 5, 2016**.

Description: Contracting with Food Service Management involves assessing the needs of the food service operation (s) and developing a solicitation that clearly communicates the Food Service Management Company services needed. FNS will host a webinar to assist program operators with assessing their needs, developing a solicitation, evaluating and scoring bids/responses, and monitoring contractor performance.

Target Audience: State agencies, School Food Authorities, and School Business officials

Topics Covered: The procurement standards in 2 CFR 200 and the various Child Nutrition Program regulations that apply to Program Operators when

contracting with a Food Service Management Company, especially those operating multiple Child Nutrition Programs.

To participate in the webinar on Monday, Dec. 5, 2016, at 1 p.m. CDT:

Please click on the link to register:

<https://cc.readytalk.com/r/at1glv6290s4&eom>

For technical support:

- Call: (800) 843-9166
- Email: help@readytalk.com
- Web: <http://www.readytalk.com/support>

Streaming audio will be available through your computer. If you are unable to use streaming through your computer, you can call in to listen to audio via your phone.

Phone dial in:

Participant: 303.248.0285

Participant Access Code: 6054013

Speaker Dial in: 310.356.1948

Speaker Dial in: 864667

SUMMER MEALS



Derrick Lambert of the Center for Best Practices for Share Our Strength in Washington, D.C. leads a brainstorming discussion at the Springfield Summer Meals Summit.

Summer Meals Summits Held in Springfield, Marion, and Chicago

ISBE Summer Food Service Program staff hosted three summits around the state, including in

Springfield (Nov. 2), Marion (Nov. 10), and Chicago (Nov. 16). ISBE partnered with No Kid Hungry/Share Our Strength to coordinate and/or facilitate the events.

Sponsors and resource organizations came together to share challenges and successes from summer 2016. More importantly, they engaged in brainstorming with resource organizations on topics such as marketing, menu planning, and other challenges to help with participation for summer 2017.

Some ideas that came out of the sessions include:

- Speaking to community organizations (such as Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Jaycees, churches, Boys & Girls Clubs, etc.) about summer meals and seeking partnerships.
- Reach out to Police Departments to visit programs or invite to meals.
- Invite media to see meals and kid's activities.
- Partner with other organizations (such as colleges, schools or other sponsors) to host a kick-off.
- Asking local utility to promote Summer Meals by inserting information in bills.
- Ask to put up posters in local businesses (including Laundromats).
- Sponsors sharing how they reached out to libraries, parks, and housing authorities in their areas.

Resource organizations participating in the summits included University of Illinois Extension Service; Women, Infant and Children (WIC) centers; Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC); Midwest Dairy Council; United Way; and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Get the Scoop on Summer Meal Requirements for School Districts

Public Act 096-0734 (amends Public Act 095-0155), amends Section 20 of the Childhood Hunger Relief Act (105 ILCS 126/20). This amendment requires a school district to implement a summer breakfast and/or lunch program for the duration of the summer school program in all schools where 50 percent or more of the student population is eligible

for free or reduced-price meals AND that have a summer school program. This amendment applies to all schools that meet the above criteria, including those schools not currently participating in any federal Child Nutrition Program. There is an opt-out clause in the legislation, but it must be completed by Jan. 15. The legislation along with question and answers are accessible at www.isbe.net/nutrition on the National School Lunch Program webpage under Public Act 096-0734 (which amends Public Act 095-0155) – Summer Food Service Program and on the Summer Food Service Program webpage under the Regulations and Policies link as Public Act 096-0734 – Summer Food Service Program.

Staff from our Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division is available at (800) 545-7892 or (217) 782-2491 for technical assistance with reimbursement or program operations.

Important Dates to Remember

Jan. 15

- Deadline to submit written Opt-Out Request to your regional superintendent of schools.

Feb. 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.
- Sign up for the Summer Food Service Program training if participating in the SFSP. For more information on SFSP, visit <http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/summer.htm>.

Prior to March 1

- Regional superintendent of schools must convene a public hearing to hear testimony from the school district and interested community members.

March 1

- Deadline for regional superintendent 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.



UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS & DEADLINES

- Dec. 2 – [Level 3 Healthier Meals Cooking Class](#), Springfield
- Dec. 9 – [Level 3 Healthier Meals Cooking Class](#), Springfield
- Dec. 26 – ISBE offices closed for Christmas
- Jan. 2 – ISBE offices closed for New Year's Day
- Jan. 10 – [USDA Foods Exhibit and Workshop](#), Collinsville
- Jan. 12 – [USDA Foods Exhibit and Workshop](#), Glen Ellyn
- Jan. 15 – Deadline to submit written opt-out request to your regional superintendent of schools for summer breakfast and/or lunch program requirements under Public Act 096-0734. (See Pages 5 and 6 of this issue.)
- Jan. 16 – ISBE offices closed for Martin Luther King J. Day

Happy
Holidays!

Please note this is not a complete list of events, meetings, and deadlines. For questions, call ISBE's Nutrition and Wellness Programs Division at (800) 545-7892. Visit us online at <http://isbe.net/nutrition/default.htm>.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at <https://www.ascr.usda.gov/how-file-program-discrimination-complaint>, 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
3. **Email:** program.intake@usda.gov.



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USDA FOODS EXHIBIT & WORKSHOP

EXPLORE THE
POSSIBILITIES



ILLINOIS STATE BOARD
OF EDUCATION

(800) 545-7892 (IL Only)
(217) 782-2491

Email: cnp@isbe.net

These full day exhibits and workshops will provide school nutrition professionals a great opportunity to learn more about the USDA Foods program. Processors will be providing samples of approved end products, product cut sheets, pricing information, and SEPDS schedules that will assist you in making informed decisions for your operation. In addition, there will be educational sessions with up to six hours of professional development throughout the day.

Registration is free and now available at:

<http://webprod1.isbe.net/cnscaledar/asp/eventlist.asp>

Jan. 10, 2017

Collinsville
Gateway Center
1 Gateway Drive
Collinsville, IL 62234

Jan. 12, 2017

Glen Ellyn
Abbingdon Distinctive
3 S. 002 Route 53
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137



SUCCESS SPOTLIGHT:

Peoria Heights Grade School

Peoria Heights Grade School was having a difficult time getting students to behave & consume the healthy foods offered in the lunchroom.

Therefore, Suzanne Cranford, Food Service Director for Peoria Heights District #325, implemented the “Golden Spatula” incentive program. Now, the end of lunch is considered “quiet time,” the lights are turned off, and students are encouraged to finish their meal. The two classes with the best behavior, clean trays, and a clean table receive the “golden spatula” for that day – which allows students to play on the playground with the best equipment, receive extra recess, or eat lunch with a celebrity guest(s), including the Illinois Central College Basketball team.

Lunchroom monitors, teachers, and food service staff have seen a vast improvement in the lunchroom, including a decrease in food waste and a positive lunchroom environment. The school plans to continue the program in the following years.

GET READY FOR THE NEW YEAR

Contact your local Extension office, or visit our [website](#), to schedule free professional development training for next semester. It’s not too early to prepare yourself for a successful new year!

SAVE THE DATES

For the [2017 USDA Food Exhibit & Workshops](#)! Receive hours of USDA professional standards credit by attending the informational sessions & up to 2 hours of credit for the vendor show.

Jan 10th – Collinsville, IL

Time: 8:30am – 3:30pm

Location: Gateway Center, One Gateway Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234

Jan 12th – Glen Ellyn, IL

Time: 8:30am – 3:30pm

Location: Abbingdon Distinctive, 3 S. 002 Route 53, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

“The last 5 minutes of lunch students stay quiet and eat their trays. I saw students who didn’t eat any of their lunch before now eating their tray”

Suzanne Cranford, Peoria Heights Grade School

SMARTER LUNCHROOMS TAKING OFF IN ILLINOIS

Over **200** schools in Illinois have completed Smarter Lunchrooms assessments & counting!



Smarter Lunchrooms shows school nutrition staff how to use free or low-cost strategies to enhance the promotion & enjoyment of healthy meals in their cafeterias. Extension looks forward to helping many more Illinois schools apply Smarter



Momence High School, Momence, IL

Lunchrooms. See the *Success Spotlight* for a look into how Smarter Lunchrooms and University of Illinois Extension inspired Suzanne Cranford, Food Service Director for Peoria Heights District #325, to boost consumption & improve behavior at Peoria Heights Grade School.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NOVEMBER'S WINNER!

Congratulations to **Momence High School in Momence, IL** for winning November's Meal of the Month Club photo contest! These conveniently packaged, bright & colorful Chef Salads make it easy for their high school students to make the

healthy choice when they're on-the-go. Go Redskins meals! Post your school meal photos on our [Facebook](#) page, or email your photos to schoolnutrition@illinois.edu, every month to enter our photo contest. Winning photos will be shared on Facebook and Twitter for all to see! Schools will also win recognition and prizes for their school nutrition program, e.g. posters, stickers, buttons, fruit baskets, bulletin board materials, aprons, and other small prizes. Questions about the contest? Email schoolnutrition@illinois.edu.

SCHOOL RECIPE OF THE MONTH ORANGE GLAZED CARROTS

This recipe is a great vegetable-promoting side dish to your school holiday menus. The orange juice compliments the natural sweetness of the carrots, and the nutmeg and cinnamon give them a festive flavor. *Enjoy!*

1/3 cup (No. 12 scoop) provides 1/8 cup red/orange vegetable.
This recipe makes 50 or 100 servings.



STAY IN TOUCH

ABCs of School Nutrition

University of Illinois Extension

Email: schoolnutrition@illinois.edu

Website: <http://go.illinois.edu/abcsofschoolnutrition>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/teamupforschoolnutritionsuccessIL>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/teamupillinois>

E-newsletter: *Coming Soon!*

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