



Summer Food Service Program



Child Nutrition Programs
Finance and Support Services
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Program Bulletin

To: SFSP Sponsors
Program Reviewers

Bulletin: 2021-07

From: Rhonda Biles
SFSP Program Specialist

Subject: 2021 SFSP August Bulletin

Date: August 25, 2021

USDA Policy Memos, Information, and Guidance:

To view current USDA SFSP policy memos, visit the following:

- CNPWeb SFSP Welcome page (after logging in), or the [link to USDA Policy Memorandum webpage](#) and the [SFSP USDA Policy Memo webpage](#).

Additional Topics:

- 1) **New!** ICN List of Fall Virtual, Instructor-led Trainings (VILTs)
- 2) **Reminder!** Procurement Thresholds
- 3) **Reminder!** Unavailability of Milk
- 4) **Inquiry!** Farm to Summer Celebration Week
- 5) **Resource!** Child Nutrition Recipe Box
- 6) **State Agency Announcement**

Program changes as a result of USDA Policy Memos are to be implemented immediately. Please file this bulletin for reference, guidance, and compliance with the Summer Food Service Program. Feel free to call the Child Nutrition Programs office if you need further clarification.

USDA Policy Memos, Information, and Guidance:

No new Policy Memos issued since 6/11 and 5/24. Details on previously released Policy Memos can be found in prior SFSP Bulletins, and at the links above.

Additional Topics:

1. **NEW!** ICN List of Fall Virtual, Instructor-led Trainings (VILTs)
For your reference, the following link will take you to a list of VILTs that the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) is offering this fall. VILT link: <https://theicn.org/vilt>

VILTs are free, live, and interactive training sessions for child nutrition professionals. These sessions feature individual lessons led by ICN's expert trainers on great back-to-school topics.

Dates and times for all available topics can be found at the registration link above. **Don't wait! These sessions fill up quickly!** Registration is limited to 25 participants per session.

Virtual Training Opportunities – Fall Sessions (September and October) include:

- Basic Culinary Math
- Buy American: U.S. Agriculture Supporting Health School Meals
- Financial Management for Managers
- Focus on the Customer for Directors and Managers
- Food Allergies for School Nutrition Managers and Staff
- Food Safety Basics
- Food Safety in Schools
- Forecasting the Procurement of Foods
- Foundations for Training Excellence: Basics
- Norovirus in Schools
- Nutrition 101: A Taste of Food and Fitness
- Training Culturally Diverse Groups
- Utilizing the Cafeteria as a Classroom

2. **Reminder! Federal Procurement Thresholds**

The federal procurement thresholds that are in the [SFSP Administration Guide \(2016\)](#) are outdated. Please refer to the following federal procurement thresholds when developing or updating your Procurement Plan and procedures:

- Micro-Purchase: Purchases between **\$0 - \$10,000** (2 CFR 200.320(a) and 200.67)
- Small Purchase: Purchases between **\$10,000 - \$250,000** (2 CFR 200.230(b))
- Formal Purchases (or competitive sealed bids): **Purchases over \$250,000** or most restrictive threshold (2 CFR 200.320(c))

As a reminder, ALL purchases of food, supplies, goods and other service that use SFSP reimbursement funds must comply with procurement standards as stated in federal regulations ([2 CFR Part 200.317-326](#) and [7 CFR Part 225.17](#)).

Need a refresher on federal purchasing? Visit the DEED eLearning website and take the following courses: www.education.alaska.gov/Elearning

- Procurement Training – *Procurement Plans*
- Procurement Training – *Informal (includes micro and small purchases)*
- Procurement Training – *Formal*
- Procurement Training – *Food Service Management Companies*

3. **Reminder! Unavailability of Milk**

If you are having difficulties meeting the milk component of the meal pattern due to delivery issues, or the unavailability of milk, read on! You may still receive reimbursement for meals served without milk. If you are having milk delivery issues, you must contact the State agency to notify us of your issues. Also, this does not mean that if you cannot find milk at Costco that you can serve meals without milk. You will need to get your milk from a different store, like Safeway or Fred Meyer, or another local store, to meet the meal pattern requirement. The below regulation is referring to situations where there is no milk available in town, or if your food vendor is unable to acquire milk to deliver for your meal service.

[7 CFR 225.16\(f\)\(6\) and \(7\)](#)

(6) If emergency conditions prevent a sponsor normally having a supply of milk from temporarily obtaining milk deliveries, the State agency may approve the service of breakfasts, lunches, or suppers without milk during the emergency period.

(7) The inability of a sponsor to obtain a supply of milk on a continuing basis shall not bar it from participation in the Program. In such cases, the State agency may approve service of meals without milk, provided that an equivalent amount of canned, whole dry or nonfat dry milk is used in the preparation of the milk components set forth in paragraph (d) of this section. In addition, the State agency may approve the use of nonfat dry milk in meals served to children participating in activities which make the service of fluid milk impracticable, and in locations which are unable to obtain fluid milk. Such authorization shall stipulate that nonfat dry milk be reconstituted at normal dilution and under sanitary conditions consistent with State and local health regulations.

4. ***Inquiry!* Farm to Summer Celebration Week**

Hey, calling all summer sponsors! Did any of you participate in the Farm to Summer Celebration week July 18-24? You did? AWESOME!! – We would love to hear back from you and share your story with our USDA Western Regional Office! Send us some highlights, kid quotes, pictures, or whatever you got that show off your program. Don't be shy – let's wow USDA with Alaska's Farm to Summer Celebration participation! Send your Farm to Summer wows to Jennifer Cherian at the contact email listed below.

5. **Resource! Child Nutrition Recipe Box**

Need help with recipes? Can't figure out how to meet the meal pattern? Well, the Child Nutrition Recipe Box can help! Let these recipes do the work for you! They have already been developed to meet meal pattern requirements, so you don't have figure it out! The Child Nutrition Recipe Box (CNRB) provides Child Nutrition Program operators with recipes:

- to prepare healthy and delicious meals that meet meal pattern requirements;
- that are standardized to provide meal pattern crediting information for meal pattern components; and,
- made with legumes, whole grains, and vegetables.

The CNRB includes:

- *Nutrition information:* Each CNRB recipe contains nutrition information per serving, including calories, total fat, saturated fat, sodium, total sugars, and fiber.
- *Ratings:* See how others rated the recipe, or rate it yourself after you make it!
- *Cookbook:* Use the “Add to Cookbook” button to save a recipe to My Cookbook, create folders, and organize your recipes for easy access.
- *Recipe Search:* The updated search feature on CNRB will search any text on the website including ingredients or measurements.

Check out delicious recipes at the following link: <https://theicn.org/cnr/#allrecipes>

6. State Agency Announcement

To all you wonderful SFSP sponsors out there: I just wanted to let you know that my last day (Rhonda Biles) with the Summer Food Service Program is September 10th. I cannot tell you enough how much I have learned from all of you, and how truly impressed I am by your selfless dedication to provide summer meals to kids that are in need of food. This mission is so profoundly important, and it warms my heart to see you all be a part of it. Thank you for everything. The State agency is always a resource for you, and we are always just an email or phone call away.

Contact Information

Until September 10th:

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After September 10th:

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Commonly Used Acronyms

SFSP – Summer Food Service Program

CNP – Child Nutrition Programs

DEED – Department of Education and Early Development

WRO – Western Region Office

FNS – Food and Nutrition Services

FNSRO – Food and Nutrition Services Regional Office

USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture

Jennifer Cherian, Education Program

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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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