



VOLUME 22/ NO. 1 / December 2021



The Community Nutrition Team (CNT) wishes all of you peace and joy throughout the coming year. DPI recognizes there have been many challenges this past year. Thank you for your continued partnership with the CNT to ensure the children of Wisconsin have access to healthy meals and snacks. Happy Holidays!

## CACFP Week March 2022

It's never too early to start planning for CACFP Week! CACFP Week is a national educational and information campaign sponsored annually by the National CACFP Sponsors Association designed to raise awareness of how the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program works to combat hunger. The CACFP brings healthy foods to tables across the country for children in child care centers, homes and afterschool, as well as for adults in day care.

For more information and resources for CACFP Week 2022, please visit the [National CACFP Sponsors Association website](#).

## Guidance Memorandum (GM) Webpage Changes

The [Guidance Memorandum](#) webpages have been updated with a new layout which we hope allows users better access to the information needed to successfully operate the CACFP. Many of the GMs, forms and resources have been revised so be sure to go to the GM webpage to check out the updates and to use the most current version of the forms.

DPI COMMUNITY  
NUTRITION TEAM

# CACFP Today

## FEATURED STORIES

[Happy Holidays!](#)

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## SAVE THE DATES

February 4, 2022:  
*Wisconsin Chili Lunch*

March 14-18, 2022:  
*CACFP Week*

# Attention all Public Schools participating in the At-Risk After School Child and Adult Care Food Program



If you are a public school that administers an At-Risk After School site(s) in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) please ensure that you are accounting for your CACFP funds correctly. All CACFP revenues and expenditures must be recorded in your Fund 50 account under Project Code 551. This revenue and expenditure report will be used to support the quarterly or annual CACFP Financial Reports that you send to DPI.

Since the CACFP is a separate federal program from the National School Lunch (NSLP), School Breakfast Programs (SBP), and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) it is essential that the accounting for the revenue and expenditures in these programs are easily identifiable and support the CACFP expenditures.

For example, if you are a public school district that claims supper meal service through the Child and Adult Care Food Program the costs that your district incurs and the reimbursement you receive as a result of these meals should be coded as follows:

## Revenue

CACFP Meal Service Reimbursement – Fund 50, Source 717, Project 551  
CACFP Cash in Lieu of Commodities – Fund 50, Source 715, Project 551

## Expenditures

Salaries – Use Object Code 100 under Project 551  
Benefits – Use respective Object Code 200 under Project 551  
Purchased Food Supplies – Use Object Code 410 under Project 551  
Purchased Kitchen Supplies – Use respective Object Codes 400 under Project 551  
Purchased Services (included Vendor Services) – Use respective Object Code 300 under Project 551

If your school district is finding that it has incurred a surplus balance in any of the federal food service programs (CACFP, SFSP, NSLP, etc.) **this balance must be retained in the Fund 50 account and be used to off-set the expenditures incurred in the other federal food service programs.** Under no circumstances can this balance be transferred out of the Fund 50 account. Remember that program requirements only allow a three-month operating balance to be carried over into the next fiscal year. If your agency is having difficulty spending down your Fund 50 balance that has incurred, please contact your respective SNT or CNT program consultant.

**Questions?**

**Contact Cari Ann**

**Muggenburg by e-mail:**

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[dpi.wi.gov](http://dpi.wi.gov) or

**phone: (608) 264-**

**9551.**

# I Heard It Through the Grapevine

**I Heard it through the Grapevine:** “I was told that a grain item is considered whole grain rich when the first ingredient is a whole grain or whole wheat.”

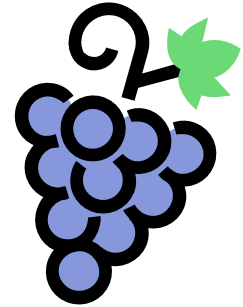
**CACFP Requirement:** When the CACFP meal pattern requirements were updated in October 2017, the requirements for determining a grain to be whole grain rich (WGR) were also changed. Programs can no longer determine a grain to be whole grain just by looking at the first ingredient.

A grain item is WGR when:

- The product package for bread, buns or rolls is labeled “Whole Wheat,” “Entire Wheat,” or “Graham” or pasta is labeled “Whole Wheat;”
- The product is found on the Wisconsin WIC list;
- A specific FDA health claim is included on the product package (health claims are listed in the CACFP Reference Guide. See link below for more information);
- A Child Nutrition (CN) label or Product Formulation Statement credits the item as WGR; or
- Using the Rule of Three, which requires that the first ingredient (or second after water) is a whole grain or flour, and the second and third grain ingredients (if there are any) are whole grain, enriched grain, bran or germ.

For more information on the ways to determine a grain to be WGR, including the Rule of Three, see the [CACFP Reference Guide](#).

If you have any questions about how you are completing a CACFP requirement, contact your [Assigned Consultant](#).



**Are you completing CACFP requirements because:**

- “I heard from someone else this is the way to do it,”
- “That is the way I was trained,” or
- “We have always done it this way!”

## Farm to ECE

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the National Farm to School Network’s launch into Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE)! Farm to ECE programming offers increased access to healthy, local foods, gardening opportunities and food-based activities to enhance the quality of the educational experience in all ECE settings.

Here are some resources to help you get started!

- [What is Farm to Early Care and Education?](#)
- [USDA Fact Sheet: Local Food and Learning in Early Child Care and Education Settings](#)
- [Getting Started with Farm to Early Care and Education](#)



**More information can be found on [DPI’s Farm to ECE webpage](#).**

# Crediting Combination Food Items in the CACFP

When crediting combination food products (food items that contribute to more than one meal component), only the amount of the food that contributes to each component is counted. For example, pizzas, chicken nuggets, and ravioli count toward the meats/meat alternates (M/MA) component. The amount of M/MA per serving is used for crediting purposes, not the total portion size which includes other ingredients. Combination foods may contain varied amounts from a meal component.

Due to the uncertainty of the actual amount of the meal components contained in the commercial combination food product, for example M/MA, they cannot be served as part of a reimbursable meal if they are not in the Food Buying Guide (FBG) unless they are CN Labeled, or you obtain a Product Formulation Statement (PFS) from the manufacturer that shows how the creditable amount was determined. This documentation must be obtained prior to the combination food product being served.

During a program review, we are responsible for checking your documentation to ensure meal pattern requirements are met. Check with your Nutrition Program Consultant if you are unsure if a food is creditable or if you have questions on what type of documentation is needed.



*For more information, please visit [Guidance Memorandum 12](#) on our webpage!*

## Wisconsin Chili Lunch

Celebrate Wisconsin-grown foods and farm to institution efforts by joining the 2022 Wisconsin Chili Lunch. Join K-12 schools, early care and education programs, hospitals, colleges, and more by cooking and serving a chili recipe made with local ingredients on National Chili Day—Thursday, February 24, 2022!

The goal of the Wisconsin Chili Lunch is to create strong connections between Wisconsin farmers and eaters and demonstrate how organizations can serve Wisconsin-grown foods - even in winter. This statewide chili lunch event inspires nutritious school and early care meals and supports farm to institution initiatives throughout the state while encouraging year-round purchases of local foods.

Participation is simple: Prepare and serve your Wisconsin Chili Lunch using as many locally grown ingredients as possible! Add local meats, cheese, or yogurt! Serve it in a bowl, on a baked potato, or with a cinnamon roll! Use a recipe listed on the Wisconsin Chili Lunch website or cook up your own favorite recipe. Register today to get the Chili Lunch Guide, supply chain help, more recipes and get connected to other farm to institution efforts in the state.



*Visit the [Wisconsin Chili Lunch website](#) to register, find resources, and more!*

# USDA: New Guidance

## [CACFP 14-2021: Previously Issued Questions and Answers Relating to Operation of the Child Nutrition Programs: Updated for School Year 2021-2022](#)

This memorandum includes questions and answers intended to provide clarification to state agencies and program operators as they operate the child nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), NSLP Seamless Summer Option (SSO), and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

## [CACFP 15-2021: COVID-19 Waiver Requests Submitted Prior to December 31, 2020](#)

This memorandum clarifies that individual state agency waiver requests submitted to the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) in calendar year 2020 requesting flexibilities in the NSLP, SBP, CACFP, SFSP, SMP, and FFVP during the COVID-19 public health emergency that have not been approved or denied prior to Dec. 31, 2020, will no longer be considered active requests.

## [CACFP 16-2021: Child Nutrition Emergency Operational Costs Reimbursement Programs: Q&As #3](#)

This memorandum includes questions and answers intended to provide clarification to state agencies as they implement the Child Nutrition Emergency Operational Costs Reimbursement Programs. This set of Q&As addresses questions regarding assurance statements, program operator eligibility, financial management, reporting, and monitoring and operations.

## [CACFP 17-2021: Questions and Answers for Child Nutrition Program Operations in School Year 2021-2022, Q&A #2](#)

This memorandum includes questions and answers intended to provide clarification to state agencies and program operators as they operate the child nutrition programs, including NSLP, SBP, SSO, and CACFP during school year (SY) 2021-2022.

## [CACFP 18-2021: Questions and Answers for Child Nutrition Programs Emergency Procurement Due to Supply Chain Disruptions](#)

This memorandum includes questions and answers intended to provide clarification to state agencies and program operators as they utilize the noncompetitive procurement method found at [2 CFR 200.320\(c\)](#).

## [CACFP 02-2022: Child and Adult Care Food Program \(CACFP\) Flexibilities During COVID-19 Supply Chain Disruptions](#)

This memorandum outlines the existing flexibilities available to all Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) operators experiencing supply chain disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic and encourages state agency and sponsoring organization discretion when monitoring for compliance with meal pattern requirements.



**Listed to the left are recent policy memos issued by the United States**

**Department of Agriculture (USDA) and a brief summary of each one.**

**Click on [FNS Documents & Resources](#) to access the complete list of USDA policy memos and to download copies.**

**COVID-19: Child Nutrition Responses - For the list of USDA issued responses check out our [Child and Adult Care Food Program COVID-19 Information](#) webpage.**



# USDA: New Guidance (Cont.)

## [CACFP 02-2022: CACFP Flexibilities During COVID-19 Supply Chain Disruptions](#)

This memorandum outlines the existing flexibilities available to all Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) operators experiencing supply chain disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic and encourages state agency and sponsoring organization discretion when monitoring for compliance with meal pattern requirements.

## [CACFP 03-2022: Updates to the Federal Micro-Purchase Threshold in 2 CFR 200.320\(a\)\(1\)](#)

The purpose of this guidance is to make state agencies and program operators aware of regulatory changes made by the Office of Management and Budget which they may utilize at their discretion. These changes may be helpful to program operators experiencing challenges related to supply chain disruptions.



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## CNT Staff Updates

**We are pleased to announce that we have two new Nutrition Program Consultants joining our team!**

Mika Vuckovich: "My name is Mika, and I am 100% Serbian. I love to learn and have an unhealthy collection of books. My work experience has included school nutrition, eating disorders, and retail. I am currently working on my master's degree in Nutritional Sciences, and in my spare time love to sing with the local choir and play volleyball."



Mika Vuckovich

Emily Rox: "My hobbies and interests include cooking, baking, and spending time with my family and our two English bulldogs, Ruby and Poppy. I am from La Crosse, WI and recently graduated from Viterbo University with a bachelor's degree in dietetics. I spend most of my time in the historic downtown La Crosse area where I have worked the past few years at the Pearl Ice Cream Parlor and Confectionary as well as the adjoining retail shops. I am a member of the production staff at the Pearl, so I spend my days hand making the fudge and specialty chocolates they sell."



Emily Rox

**Sadly, we have also said goodbye to Molle Polzin, who is moving into a role with the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN). We wish you all the best, Molle!**

Molle Polzin: "It is with mixed emotions that I leave this position as a Nutrition Program Consultant with DPI. I'm sad to leave this job I've had for over 20 years but am excited to start a new chapter as an Education Training Specialist for the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) in which I will be developing CACFP training and resources. It has been a pleasure working with so many wonderful individuals over the years, including everyone at DPI, and all of you in the centers, schools and home sponsors. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for all the hard work you do for the children in Wisconsin. Your dedication makes an enormous impact on the children you care for and I am truly grateful to have worked with each and every one of you."

# About Us

CACFP Today is published three times per year by the Department of Public Instruction.



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- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

