

School Nutrition Team - Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction - School Nutrition Bulletin #17, May 23, 2017

Announcements from WI DPI School Nutrition Team (SNT):

- School Nutrition News Spring Newsletter
- USDA Commitment to School Meals: A Proclamation by the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America, Sonny Perdue and USDA Policy Memorandum SP 32-2017: School Meal Flexibilities for School Year 2017-2018
- School Nutrition Skills Development Courses (SNSDC) 2017: Registration Still Open!
- Year End Processing for Child Nutrition Online Services
- Updated Meal Pattern for Pre-K and Childcare Programs Participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP), Effective October 1, 2017
- Professional Standards for Hiring a New Food Service Director

School Nutrition News Spring Edition

Please see our [School Nutrition Team Newsletter](#).

USDA Commitment to School Meals: A Proclamation by the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America, Sonny Perdue and USDA Policy Memorandum SP 32-2017: School Meal Flexibilities for School Year 2017-2018

As many of you have heard, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue issued a Proclamation on May 1, 2017, that calls for greater flexibility of the USDA school meal pattern. The press release announcement includes three changes that USDA will create regulatory changes for:

1. USDA will delay the time table progression of the sodium targets. Until 2020 schools will not be required to meet the Sodium Target 2. Instead, schools that meet Sodium Target 1 will be considered compliant. The time frame will provide schools and the school nutrition industry with the certainty and predictability they need to make appropriate plans for creating foods with the appropriate amount of sodium. During the next three years, the SNT will continue to provide technical assistance to schools as they continue to develop menus that are low in sodium and appealing to students. Please try to attend SNT's Sodium class at this summer's SNSDC training, or the sodium breakout session at the annual School Nutrition Association of Wisconsin conference in La Crosse.
2. USDA will allow states to grant exemptions to schools experiencing hardship in serving 100 percent of grain products as whole-grain rich for school year 2017-18. Therefore, whole-grain rich waivers will continue to be allowed for the next school year. Stay tuned on more information on how the Wisconsin waiver process will be handled. Remember that all grains that you serve towards the meal pattern must still be whole grain-rich unless you have a SNT approved waiver for specific products.
3. USDA is working on changing the regulation that does not allow schools to serve 1 percent flavored milk in school meals programs. They are planning on publishing an interim rule as soon as possible to effect the change in milk policy. USDA Guidance Mem SP 32-2017 clarified that State Agencies have the discretion to grant SFAs exemptions allowing service of low-fat (1-

percent milk fat), flavored milk through the NSLP and the SBP and as a competitive food available for sale on campus during the school day. In order to qualify for the exemption, schools must demonstrate hardship by documenting a reduction in student milk consumption or an increase in school milk waste. Schools are not allowed to serve 1% flavored milk in school meals programs without an approved exemption.

The memo states that “Although FNS will be working towards more permanent regulatory changes in these areas, this memorandum implements flexibilities for SY 2017-2018 as required by Congress.”

Although some schools may find these changes helpful, there are more schools that have made the required changes, and students have adapted to them. We encourage schools to keep in mind the best interests of the students and provide our school children with the most healthful and nutritious meals possible. If you have questions or need assistance, please let us know. We are here to support you.

The DPI SNT decide how the whole grain and milk waivers will be handled and let you know as soon as we can.

School Nutrition Skills Development Courses 2017: Registration Still Open!

- June 20-22: Rice Lake – Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College
- July 11-13: Wausau – Northcentral Technical College
- July 18-20: Appleton – Fox Valley Technical College
- July 25-27: Madison – DPI Offices
- August 8-10: Milwaukee – Alverno College

Registration for SNSDC 2017 is still open, and there are spots available in many classes and locations. Now is a great opportunity to register while school is still in session! Registration includes a one-time, non-refundable \$10 registration fee per person. Class schedules and course descriptions are posted to our [SNT Training webpage](#).

2017 Year-End Processing Schedule for Online Services

Each year in June the processing of claims is shut down for a few weeks in order for the State to perform year-end wrap up and rollover into the new fiscal year. Please be aware of the [year end processing schedule](#) when filing claims for any federal or state Child Nutrition Program. Any claims for reimbursement submitted between the afternoon of June 13th and July 10th will be processed on July 11th. Only one claim *per program* may be entered during this time per agency, including adjustments. Only if your claim is close to the 60-calendar day cut off, please fax the claim to: Federal and State Grants Program – Attn. Jacque Jordee, (608) 267-9207. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jacque Jordee at Jacqueline.Jordee@dpi.wi.gov or (608) 267-9134.

Updated Meal Pattern for Pre-K and Childcare Programs Participating in the NSLP and SBP, Effective October 1, 2017

Beginning on **October 1, 2017**, the updated Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) meal pattern replaces the current meal pattern options for SFAs serving infants and or children aged 1-5 years old and not yet in kindergarten. The CACFP meal pattern requirements were updated to better align them with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, as required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. To assist with implementing the new CACFP meal patterns, the DPI SNT will provide information about the changes starting with a comparison of the [new CACFP meal pattern and the NSLP and SBP meal patterns](#).

Professional Standards for Hiring

If your SFA plans on hiring a school nutrition director for school year 2017-18, you must follow USDA hiring standards. Information on hiring requirements may be found in the professional standards “[In a Nutshell](#)” document. The “[Guide to Professional Standards for School Meal Programs](#)” includes overall hiring and training requirements. The “[Professional Standards Hiring Chart by District Size](#)” is a chart that summarizes the minimum requirements for hiring a food service director. If you have additional questions about hiring requirements for school nutrition directors please contact the school nutrition team at dpifns@dpi.wi.gov.

This is a communication from the WI Department of Public Instruction, School Nutrition Team.

You can contact the School Nutrition Team at dpifns@dpi.wi.gov.

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