

SCHOOL NUTRITION TEAM - Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction - School Nutrition Bulletin #2, September 13, 2016

Food Safety Google Survey

Earlier this month, we sent out a link to a survey that will be used to gather information on how School Food Authorities (SFAs) are fulfilling food safety requirements under Act 46, which requires one person in each SFA to acquire a certificate of food safety practices, also known as a Food Manager's Certificate, from the State of Wisconsin. Most participants meet this requirement by taking the ServSafe class and a proctored exam. The information provided will help the Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) School Nutrition Team (SNT) understand the needs of SFAs in our state and help us plan future trainings.

Below is a link to the survey, and we ask that Authorized Representatives and Food Service Directors take 5 minutes to provide us with this valuable information. The survey ends September 15th.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScdTUqhXvV61m3EyUG7s7EyyNUghtOKp2ejKH-x-G56RyJyrw/viewform>.

Professional Standards Memo (attached)

The attached memo answers the most commonly asked questions that the School Nutrition Team hears related to Professional Standards training requirements.

Direct Certification with Medicaid

In January 2016, the USDA published a policy memorandum titled *Request for Applications to Participate in New Demonstrations to Evaluate Direct Certification with Medicaid*. Because direct certification has the potential to improve student access to school meals, reduce administrative burden for schools and local educational agencies, and improve certification accuracy, the new demonstrations will evaluate the impact of using Medicaid data to directly certify students for both free and reduced price meal eligibility. The DPI SNT will work with partner Wisconsin state agencies to match school enrollment data with Medicaid eligibility data to identify children who receive Medicaid, or live with a child who receives Medicaid, and whose family income, before expenses and deductions, does not exceed:

- 130 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for free school meal eligibility; or
- 185 percent of the FPL for reduced price meal eligibility.

Eligible children identified through this matching process can be certified automatically to receive free or reduced price school meal benefits, without requiring the household to submit an application.

During the demonstrations, the USDA Food and Nutrition Service will evaluate the following:

- The potential of direct certification with Medicaid to enroll children who are eligible for free and reduced price school meals but are not currently certified to receive meals;
- The potential of direct certification with Medicaid to directly certify children who are currently enrolled for free or reduced price school meals based on a household application; and
- The effect of direct certification with Medicaid on federal costs and participation in the school lunch and breakfast programs.

The DPI SNT is submitting an application to USDA to participate in these new demonstration projects for the 2017-2018 school year. During the system programming and testing phases, your SFA may be contacted to participate in the testing process (i.e., running direct certification through the current process

to ensure that direct certification with Medicaid data is working appropriately). Thank you in advance for your support in this process.

If you are interested in volunteering as a testing SFA, please contact Jessica Sharkus, Director-School Nutrition Team at jessica.sharkus@dpi.wi.gov.

National School Lunch Week Proclamation

As a strong supporter of the health and wellbeing of Wisconsin's children, Wisconsin State Superintendent, Tony Evers, proclaims October 10 through 14, 2016, as National School Lunch Week. A copy of this proclamation can be found on our webpage at <http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/national-school-lunch-program>. Remember to use the hashtag **#WisNSLW** when posting on social media. We will showcase all of the wonderful things you are doing to celebrate.

[Professional Standards Updates and Reminders](#) DPI SNT, 09/13/16