

Date: June 3, 2016

To: Authorized Representatives and Food Service Directors of School Food Authorities (SFAs) Participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs

From: Jessica Sharkus, RDN, CD
Director-School Nutrition Team

Subject:  Introducing GOALS – A Professional Standards Online Resource Tool for School Nutrition Staff

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction-School Nutrition Team invites you to use our free, online tool called GOALS. GOALS is an acronym for Goal Oriented Achievement Learning Skills, a resource that provides training opportunities for Wisconsin school nutrition professionals to meet USDA professional standards regulations. The main purposes of the GOALS initiative are to: 1) provide the resources needed to complete USDA professional standards training requirements, 2) assist school nutrition staff in performing their jobs to the best of their abilities, and 3) provide school nutrition staff with professional credibility by earning a *Certificate of Excellence* in school nutrition management and operations.

GOALS is a tiered learning system where participants can find and access training resources specific to their roles and responsibilities as child nutrition professionals. The website is easy to use and includes training resources, tracking tools, and requirements for earning a *Certificate of Excellence*. Some benefits of the GOALS initiative include:

- Training resources and tracking tools that satisfy USDA Professional Standards regulations.
- Compatibility with the School Nutrition Association's certification program.
- Opportunities for career advancement in the field of school nutrition for food service employees that do not have a formal degree.
- The opportunity to be professionally recognized for your expertise in the field of school nutrition and the critical role you play in ensuring that Wisconsin students are well nourished and ready to learn.

Get started on reaching your GOALS at <http://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/training/goal-oriented-achievement-learning-skills>. Simply go to the GOALS webpage at any time and follow the steps to link from one training resource to another based on your training needs.

Please contact Loriann Knapton at (608) 266-1046 or email loriann.knapton@dpi.wi.gov for more information about the GOALS initiative or earning a GOALS *Certificate of Excellence*.

We look forward to helping you reach your GOALS!