

Date: January 7, 2015

To: Authorized Representatives 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: **Serving up Science: The Path to Safe Food in Schools**

Serving up Science: The Path to Safe Food in Schools is a one-week, expenses paid, training course designed especially for USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) State Agency and local school district partners. The purpose of this course is to provide food science knowledge to help State Agency staff and district Child Nutrition staff better understand the food system and the principles of food science that provide the basis for a strong food safety program. The ultimate goal is to develop leaders who can establish a food safety culture in school districts across the U.S. Please visit the following link to see a very short promotional video about the course: <http://cnsafefood.k-state.edu/resources/serving-up-science/>.

The Center of Excellence for Food Safety Research in Child Nutrition Programs, through a cooperative agreement with the USDA FNS Office of Food Safety, will host three sessions of **Serving up Science: The Path to Food Safety in Schools** on Kansas State University's Manhattan campus during 2015. The course includes classroom lectures and discussions, field trips to production and processing facilities, and hands-on laboratory experiences.

Course dates are: April 13-17, 2015
 June 8-13, 2015
 October 5-9, 2015

If you or another individual from your school nutrition program is interested in this unique learning opportunity, send your nomination to Jessica Sharkus at jessica.sharkus@dpi.wi.gov by **February 1, 2015** for consideration. Please include the nominee's name, school district, job title, phone number, email address, and the dates he or she would prefer to attend.

Nominations should be limited to one per SFA. Selected nominees will be notified via email prior to the date of the course they will attend. Those not selected may be considered for participation in 2016.

This is a unique opportunity for food service staff involved in food safety programs to obtain specialized training in food safety and food science, and you are encouraged to nominate someone from your SFA to attend. If you have additional questions, please contact the Department of Public Instruction School Nutrition Training Team at 608-267-9228.