

# National School Lunch Program

Bulletin

[EED NSLP Bulletin Web Page](http://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/NSLP9.html)

***Child Nutrition Programs***

*Finance & Support Services*

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To: Local Educational Agencies Date:  November 4, 2019

From: Elizabeth Seitz, NSLP Program Coordinator Bulletin: 2020-3

***LEAs are required by regulation to keep Bulletins, Instructions, and USDA Policy Memorandums for reference and to apply immediately the appropriate instruction to agency programs. Call Child Nutrition Programs if you need further clarification.***

## USDA Policy, Information, & Implementation Memos

* SP16-2019 School Breakfast Program: Substitution of Vegetables for Fruit
* SP41-2019 Salad Bars in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP)
* SP40-2019 Smoothies Offered in Child Nutrition Programs
* SP39-2019 Clarification on the Milk and Water Requirements in the School Meal Programs
* SP38-2019 Meal Requirements under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Q & As for Program Operators
* SP37-2019 Q & As on the final rule *Child Nutrition Programs: Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements*
* SP36-2019 Updated School Meals Guidance

## Additional Topics

* ***Updated*** Procurement Plan
* ***Updated*** 2019-2020 USDA Income Eligibility Guidelines
* CNP-Web and Primero Edge User Authorizations
* Smart Snack Waiver

## Resources

* A Guide to Smart Snacks in Schools
* National School Lunch Program Order Form
* ***Updated*** Food Buying Guide
* Listserv

## Grant Opportunities

* ***NEW*** Elevate the Plate Challenge

## USDA Policy, Information & Implementation Memos

* **SP16-2019 School Breakfast Program: Substitution of Vegetables for Fruit** Effective immediately, school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the School Breakfast Program may credit any vegetable offered, including potatoes and other starchy vegetables, in place of fruit without including vegetables from other subgroups in the weekly menus.

***Sponsors:*** *This memorandum is stating SFAs participating in the SBP are required to offer 1 cup of fruit daily to children in all age/grade groups (7 CFR 220.8(c)). To meet this requirement, SFAs may offer a vegetable in place of a fruit. Under current regulations, SFAs choosing to offer a vegetable in place of a fruit at breakfast must ensure that at least two cups per week are from the dark green, red/orange, beans and peas (legumes), or “other vegetables” subgroups (7 CFR 220.8(c). However, under the Appropriations Act, through* ***September 30, 2019****, no Federal funds may be used to enforce the requirement that at least two cups of vegetables per week come from the vegetable subgroups listed above. Therefore, SFAs that offer 1 cup of fruit or vegetable at breakfast each day will be considered compliant during the Administrative Review through September 30, 2019.*

* **SP41-2019 Salad Bars in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program** This USDA memorandum was released in the October bulletin.

***Sponsors:*** *This memorandum supersedes policy memo SP 31-2013, “Salad Bars in the National School Lunch Program,” dated March 27, 2013. This revision includes policy changes and general updates to outdated resources/website links and updated questions and answers.*

* **SP40-2019 Smoothies Offered in Child Nutrition Programs** This USDA memorandum was released in the October bulletin.

***Sponsors:*** *This memorandum clarifies juice and yogurt allowances based on the child care and preschool meal pattern updates and incorporates the meal pattern flexibilities related to flavored milk. This memorandum supersedes all previous guidance on smoothies including SP 10-2014 (v.3), CACFP 05-2014 (v.3), SFSP 10-2014 (v.3).*

* **SP39-2019 Clarification on the Milk and Water Requirements in the School Meal Programs** This USDA memorandum was released in the October bulletin.

***Sponsors:*** *This memorandum rescinds and replaces SP 19-2018, issued August 6, 2018. This updated memorandum clarifies regulations that water made available to students in NSLP and SBP shall not compete with the milk requirement.*

* **SP38-2019 Meal Requirements under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program Q & As for Program Operators** This USDA memorandum was released in the October bulletin.

***Sponsors:*** *This USDA policy memo rescinds and replaces memorandum SP10-2012 (v.9), Questions and Answers on the Final Rule “Nutrition Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs,” dated August 3, 2015.*

* **SP37-2019 Q & As on the final rule *Child Nutrition Programs: Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements*** This USDA memorandum was released in the October bulletin.

***Sponsors:*** The QAs addressed in this policy memo are following key provisions of the final rule for: Flavored Milk*,* Whole Grains*,* andSodium Reduction Timeline.

* **SP36-2019 Updated School Meals Guidance** This USDA memorandum was released in the October bulletin.

***Sponsors:*** *This USDA policy memo is explaining what the next five (5) updated policy guidance’s will cover.*

## Additional Topics

* ***Updated* Procurement Plan**

Per USDA Policy Memo SP20-2019; CACFP07-2019; SFSP06-2019 federal procurement thresholds were increased: Micro-purchasing from $3,500 to $10,000 and formal from $150,000 to $250,000.  Local agencies do not have to increase local thresholds, but if they choose to, procurement plans and/or purchasing policies should also be adjusted.

* [2019-2020 USDA Income Eligibility Guidelines](https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/fr-050818) This notice announces the USDA’s annual adjustments to the Income Eligibility Guidelines to be used in determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals and free milk for the period from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. These guidelines are used by schools, institutions, and facilities participating in the National School Lunch Program (and USDA Foods Program), School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program for Children, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Summer Food Service Program.
* **CNP-Web and Primero Edge User Authorizations** Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) assigns a user name and password to nutrition and education staff when a User Authorization form is completed and submitted to CNP when access is needed for the claiming system (CNP-Web and Primero Edge), as part of the staff’s job duties. These forms state:

*“I will not share my user name and password in order to maintain the integrity of the data. If another user uses the CNP Web or Primero Edge under my user name and password and provides false information, I understand that I will be responsible for the information supplied to CNP.*

*I will notify the CNP immediately if my user name and password have been compromised. CNP will give me a new user name and password.*

*If I no longer need access to the CNP Web, I understand that it is my responsibility to submit a form to end access.”*

CNP staff have been noticing quite a number of user names and education staff that are sharing their user names and passwords which is **NOT ALLOWED**. When this occurs CNP staff will immediately turn off that user name’s access and that staff will be required to obtain a new user name and password. If this behavior continues we may be forced to deny access to the CNP-Web and Primero Edge for those staff members. Please be sure you are not sharing your user names with other staff. If a new member needs access they must submit a User Authorization form located on our web page:

[CNP-Web Access](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp/nslp3)

[Primero Edge Access](https://education.alaska.gov/cnp/primero)

If you have any questions regarding this requirement you may contact me at [Elizabeth Seitz](mailto:Elizabeth.seitz@alaska.gov) (Elizabeth.Seitz@alaska.gov) or 907.465.8709 or [Debbie Soto](mailto:Debbie.soto@alaska.gov) (Debbie.soto@alaska.gov) or 907.465-8712.

* **Smart Snack Waiver** This notice serves as a reminder that the waiver request process is an **annual** requirement; a new request form and all supporting documentation—including an Implementation Assessment of your Wellness Policy—must be submitted for approval each year.

To find out more information on Smart Snacks including the waiver form and Competitive Foods you can check out our web page at: [Competitive Foods (Smart Snacks)](https://education.alaska.gov/tls/cnp/competfoods.html)

## Resources

* **A Guide to Smart Snacks in Schools** This Guide to Smart Snacks in Schools is a helpful resource for anyone managing school vending machines, fundraisers, or snack bars to better understand the Smart Snacks standards. If you are interested in getting printed copies of this guide you may go to the following link:

[A Guide to Smart Snacks in Schools](https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/guide-smart-snacks-schools) and submit a request with USDA.

* ***Updated* Food Buying Guide** USDA has finally released the updated Food Buying Guide to help nutrition staff with understanding when purchasing foods, such as how much is in a #10 can of peaches or the number of portions you get from 20 pounds of ground beef. You can download the [Food Buying Guide](https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Appendix/DownLoadFBG).
* **Listserv**- Did You Know? Alaska Child Nutrition Programs has a listserv. The purpose of the listserv is to provide information and updates on the USDA Child Nutrition Programs, including the National School Lunch Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the Summer Food Service Program.

To receive all of the hottest news and updates from Alaska Child Nutrition Programs, Subscribe to ak\_child\_nutrition\_programs by filling out the form found here: [Alaska Child Nutrition Programs ListServ](http://list.state.ak.us/mailman/listinfo/ak_child_nutrition_programs).

You will receive a confirmation link via email which you should click to complete your subscription.

## Grant Opportunities

* ***NEW*** **Elevate the Plate Challenge *On-Line Applications open October 1, 2019 and close November 15, 2019.*** No Kid Hungry and Kellogg’s are proud to present the [Elevate the Plate Challenge](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__nokidhungry.us13.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D283504c3b3add96827a4ae4b9-26id-3Dfc3693cafc-26e-3D8f11616c02&d=DwMFaQ&c=teXCf5DW4bHgLDM-H5_GmQ&r=w2FBlFxnXQNozqRhc1mCOYXn7qXSBAXlxOd1cAqvpqw&m=gb_x7xAicXm6_9hkvTsI8iDQhriFCD7rIDtaFI1RHCw&s=PSbpN7yukN_YB82zIHdFwxYmFOMRYXdrZu1Cg-7Jig4&e=), which will go live October 1! Complete the challenge for a chance to win a $5,000 grant to help your school increase its school meals participation. Any school that currently participates in at least one of the following programs is eligible to apply: the National School Breakfast Program, the National School Lunch Program, and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Ten winners will be selected. [Sign up here](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__nokidhungry.us13.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D283504c3b3add96827a4ae4b9-26id-3Dff5889e96e-26e-3D8f11616c02&d=DwMFaQ&c=teXCf5DW4bHgLDM-H5_GmQ&r=w2FBlFxnXQNozqRhc1mCOYXn7qXSBAXlxOd1cAqvpqw&m=gb_x7xAicXm6_9hkvTsI8iDQhriFCD7rIDtaFI1RHCw&s=kIolkZhp2-jUKjY_nl_EMls2SvVdk6JIfM6hnORHQUM&e=) to pre-register and to receive a reminder when the Challenge begins!

**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

**DATE: EVENT:**

**October 1st Verification of Household Applications Begins**

**October 31st Student counts for verification form**

**November 15th Verification of Household Applications must be completed**

**November 30th Free & Reduced Price Eligibility Report data begins to be pulled from October claims**

**December 30th Free & Reduced Price Eligibility Report data validation**

This institution is an equal opportunity