



School Nutrition Programs

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

This weekly newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is dedicated to providing education, training, and technical assistance opportunities to school nutrition professionals, helping to ensure seamless operations for those participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Child Nutrition Programs. If you are the food service contact for your school or facility, please be certain that everyone on your team has access to this important information.

Tip of the Week

Field Trip Meals
Meal Pattern: Meals sent on field trips must meet the meal pattern requirements. Each component, including milk, must be provided in the daily minimum serving size. Field trip meals must be documented on the daily production record.

Meal Counting and Claiming: Meals must be counted at the point of service. Students can go through the line before the regular meal service time to pick up their meal and be counted. If students do not pick up the meal before leaving, field trip staff must send complete meals and complete a meal count sheet.

- Field trip staff who count meals should be trained on correct meal count procedures including civil rights.
- If not operating Offer versus Serve (OVS), all components must be taken before the meal is counted for reimbursement.

Multi-day field trips: Reimbursable meals may not be provided for multi-day field trips. While schools may transport and serve meals on the first day, alternative meal service plans need to be arranged for consecutive days.

For more information, view a field trip meals fact sheet [here](#), and contact your assigned field specialist with any questions.

Important Updates

New and Updated Resources

- Updated: [Claim Due Dates](#) for program year 2026. This resource can also be found in CNPweb under the Help option.
- New: [Product-Based Added Sugars](#) one page fact sheet.
- New: [Policy 2025-02](#) CNPweb Access for Institutions and Food Service Management Companies

Annual Financial Report (AFR) Due Date Extended
Due to the CNPweb downtime next week, the AFR due date has been extended from Monday, September 1, to Friday, September 5. Please have your AFR submitted by the due date to avoid a possible hold on claims payments.

CNPweb Downtime
CNPweb will be inaccessible from close of business on Thursday, August 21, through Monday, August 25. Access will be restored on Tuesday, August 26. Schools are encouraged to complete the renewal application prior to this downtime.

Farm to School

Harvest of the Month Calendar
The Indiana Grown for Schools network has put together a [Harvest of the Month Calendar](#) this year. Utilize the calendar along with the Harvest of the Month database found [here](#).

Indiana Grown for Schools Recipe Contest
The Indiana Grown for Schools Network and FCCLA is hosting a statewide recipe contest open to all high school students to showcase creativity in the kitchen. The challenge? Celebrate Food Day or Apple Crunch by featuring a locally-grown corn product or apple as the star of an entree, side dish, or dessert. To help you cook up your best ideas, we'll be providing a recorded 20-minute lesson on school nutrition programs. Find all contest resources [here](#) and make sure to submit your recipe [here](#) before Friday, September 19! For more details, reach out to [Sophie Lindley](#).

School Highlight
MSD Warren Township has created booklets for all the students of the Cobby Corn Adventure Book ([Cobby Corn](#) and [Cobby Adventures](#)) for all the students to celebrate Corn in August. The Food Service Department created a folder for teachers to share Fun Fact Fridays about different Harvest of the Month Products. They will have taste tests of corn for August so their students can try corn in a new way.

Food Day Popcorn Webinar Featuring Burlington Grain and Produce Company
Indiana is one of the top producers of popcorn in the country. Consider celebrating Food Day with popcorn! One local popcorn producer is Burlington Grain and Produce Company in Burlington, Indiana. Tune into a webinar on Wednesday, September 10, at 3:30 p.m. ET to learn about their popcorn and how it can be incorporated into the [Get Popping](#) lesson on the Ag in the Classroom Indiana Curriculum Matrix. Perfect for teachers, school nutrition teams, and community partners looking for a fun, hands-on way to connect students with Indiana agriculture. [Register](#) today!

Want to learn about other popcorn producers in Indiana? Visit the [Indiana Grown for Schools Buyer's Guide](#) and enter "popcorn" in the search field to find more local producers.

Know a producer or farm that would like to be featured by the Indiana Grown Farm to School Network? Contact us at F2S@doe.in.gov.

USDA Foods

Frozen Strawberry Cups Cancelled in 2026
Frozen strawberry cups 100256 have been cancelled from January to April 2026 per USDA due to vendor constraints. The strawberry cups scheduled for September to December 2025 will not be affected at this time. Please plan your menu and substitutions accordingly.

Food Distribution Program Year at a Glance Calendar
Our [Year At A Glance Calendar](#) offers school year reminders on one page, making it easy to map out events and schedules.

Updated Processing Companies and Manufacturers Broker's List
Do you need to contact your processing company brokers? Here's the link to the [Processing Brokers and Manufacturers List](#). This list contains Broker contact information and the corresponding companies they represent.

Direct Delivered (Brown Box) USDA Foods
IDOE will notify schools via this newsletter when the Food Distribution Program (FDP) opens in CNPweb.

Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program Funds
DoD allocations and sites have been entered into the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System ([FFAVORS](#)). Schools must complete the e-Authentication process by creating a [FFAVORS](#) account if not previously done. Following this action, the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) will create a profile in order for the school to begin placing produce orders. As a reminder, schools must enter their Department of Defense (DoD) Program receipts into the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System ([FFAVORS](#)) within two calendar days after the produce is delivered to your school.

USDA Foods Recipes
Use your USDA Foods [chicken](#), [fajita strips](#), [diced chicken](#), [frozen](#) or [canned](#) corn and [salsa](#) for this [Chicken Fajitas](#) recipe. This recipe may need to be adjusted to meet serving sizes and meal patterns.



Training and Webinar Opportunities

Indiana Food Code Update Webinar
Join us for a webinar with the Indiana Department of Health to learn more about the changes to the Indiana Food Code and how they affect your operation. Each session will be the same content and presenters. Kitchen and site managers are also encouraged to attend.

- Tuesday, August 26, at 2 p.m. ET. Register [here](#).
- Thursday, August 28, (repeat session) at 10 a.m. ET Register [here](#).

Updates from Our Partners

Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) Seeks Panelists
Are you looking for a way to highlight the work your school nutrition staff accomplishes? Do you want to share strategies and good practices that your team has adopted to sustain your program? ICN is currently seeking panelists for the fall series of STAR Webinars. The September topic is Farm to School: Tips for Increasing Locally Grown or Raised Food Options, October is Best Practices for Crafting Cycle Menus, and November is Strategies to Reduce Food Waste in Schools. The STAR webinars are held on the last Thursday of each month from 2 to 3 p.m. CT. Complete the interest form [here](#).

Upcoming Dates



Thursday, August 21, through Monday, August 25	CNPweb will be offline
Tuesday, August 26, at 2 p.m. ET	Indiana Food Code Changes webinar
Thursday, August 28, at 10 a.m. ET	Indiana Food Code Changes webinar (repeat)
Friday, August 29	Final June Claims Due Date
Friday, September 5	Annual Financial Report Due Date

Additional Resources

[School Nutrition Programs Calendar](#)
[IDOE's Nutrition Webpage](#)
[CNPweb](#)