

We only use cookies that are necessary for this site to function to provide you with the best experience. The controller of this site may choose to place supplementary cookies to support additional functionality such as support analytics, and has an obligation to disclose these cookies. [Learn more in our Cookie Statement](#)

Subscribe to updates from Indiana Department of Education



INDIANA
DEPARTMENT of
EDUCATION

Email Address e.g. name@example.com

Share Bulletin

School Nutrition Programs Newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education



Indiana Department of Education sent this bulletin at 10/16/2024 04:00 PM EDT



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

School Nutrition Programs

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

Happy National School Lunch Week!

Thank you for all that you do to feed the children of Indiana!



Share your fun ideas and promotions from National School Lunch Week! IDOE will compile a scrapbook with school submissions. Please submit your photos with the school name and description to [Margo Birk](#). Remember that photos of children's faces cannot be submitted without media release information on file.

Important Updates

CNPweb Program Year (PY) 2025 Application

The August claim deadline of Wednesday, October 30, is quickly approaching. It is important to ensure approval of your application by this date. If your application is not yet approved, please make sure it is in "pending approval" status. Check your email inbox for any unanswered emails from IDOE staff regarding items that need correction for approval of the application. Reach out in the [CNPweb help form](#) with questions.

Annual Financial Report (AFR)

The 2024 AFR is due in CNPweb by **Friday, November 1**. Significant changes have been made to the AFR this year, and a weekly webinar series will walk through changes, required information, errors vs. warnings, helpful resources, and more. IDOE will also offer drop-in help sessions where School and Community Nutrition (SCN) Finance specialists are available to answer any questions. Webinar and drop-in session dates and times can be found below under "Training and Webinar Opportunities."

Review the [step-by-step AFR instructions](#) for more information on the report. Contact SCNFinance@doe.in.gov with questions and include your sponsor number in the subject line.

If you have a sensitive issue with your AFR and would like to request a one-on-one call, please email Ahollin@doe.in.gov directly to set up a call. Please include "AFR call requested" and your sponsor number in the subject line.

Farm to School

Farm to School Month Highlights

MSD of Warren Township, Lakeside Elementary School has started a cooking club, an exciting hands-on learning experience where students explore the art of cooking using fresh ingredients from the school's own garden. By gathering produce directly from the garden, students gain a deeper understanding of where their food comes from while learning to read recipes, knife safety and preparation techniques. The club has prepared fresh-cut vegetables, homemade jelly, bruschetta, and a veggie scramble.



Richland Bean Blossom Edgewood Schools served sweet and sour bowls containing locally grown pumpkin on Wednesday, October 9. Students could choose between two protein options, chicken or tofu. As part of the Health Meal Initiative Grant, Chef Rebecca was onsite to help the school nutrition professional prepare this delicious scratch-made meal!



Spencer Owen Community School Corporation celebrated Apple Crunch Day at their four elementary schools. Students got to try different varieties of apples and received stickers.

Funding Opportunity for Garden Projects

The SeedMoney Challenge is an annual crowdfunding challenge for school and community gardens across the U.S. If selected, the grants range from \$100 to \$1000, and the school receives 100% of the money they raise. Find more information [here](#). The application closes on Tuesday, November 12.

USDA Foods

Use Your USDA Foods

Schools must use their USDA Foods sitting at the state assigned warehouse, Dilgard Frozen Foods or Stanz-Troyers Foodservice and/or the processing companies in order to receive maximum benefit and reduce their school food budget. Non-use of USDA Foods can lead to food and funds loss, waste, improper inventory management, and excess inventory. USDA wants schools to use their USDA Foods in the year allocated. Remember to use carryover pounds first.

Remember to Receipt in FFAVORS

Schools should be receipting their Department of Defense (DoD) produce receipts into the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System (FFAVORS) within five calendar days after the produce delivery.

New USDA Foods Forecasting Page

IDOE developed a new [Forecasting webpage](#) to assist school food authorities (SFAs) with forecasting USDA Foods and consists of processing company commodity calculators, a forecasting video, links to the Food Buying Guide, production record examples, and USDA's Food Cost Analysis Tool.

Recertifying the FDP and USDA Foods

Login to [CNPweb](#) and navigate to FDP.

- Read the update and message screen, then scroll to the bottom and click "continue."
- Click "Program Year 2025" in the upper-right corner.
- Go to the applications tab and click the "Edit" link.
- Verify and/or update the address and contact information.
- Ensure that a 24-hour access phone number (such as a mobile phone number) is entered.
- Scroll down to box 29 in the verification section and place a checkmark in the box.
- Click the submit button, and your account should be pending approval.
- IDOE will approve your account if all requirements are met.

If your account has the following message, "You do not currently have a NSLP information sheet for Program Year 2025 in a Pending Approval or Approved status. You must complete the enrollment process for the National School Lunch Program before your FDP information sheet can be Certified and Approved," your school still has tasks that need to be completed under SNP.

USDA Foods Recipes

Use your USDA [canned](#) or [frozen](#) apple slices for this variation of [apple crisp](#). This recipe must be adjusted to meet serving sizes and meal patterns.



Training and Webinar Opportunities

Fall Culinary Skills for School Meals Webinar Series

Chef Cathy Powers and her team will be offering free, interactive culinary education for all K-12 school nutrition professionals. Virtual training is provided from 2 to 3 p.m. ET, featuring live chef demonstrations of practical recipes, efficient techniques, and important nutritional insights. Each class earns one Continuing Education Unit (CEU) and includes great giveaways. Click the title of the sessions below to see more details and to register.

- Thursday, October 17 - [Knife Skills - Cutting Vegetables](#)
- Thursday, October 24 - [Knife Skills - Cutting Fruit](#)
- Thursday, October 31 - [Cooking Whole Grains - Techniques for Hot Dishes](#)
- Thursday, November 7 - [Cooking Whole Grains - Techniques for Chilled Dishes](#)
- Thursday, November 14 - [Super Simple Sauces](#)

Did you miss any of the previous Culinary Skills for School Meals Webinars from earlier this year? Click any of the links [here](#) to view the recording.

AFR Training

Significant changes have been made to the AFR this year, and a weekly webinar series will walk through changes, required information, errors vs. warnings, helpful resources, and much more. Note: these webinars are repeat sessions from previous AFR webinars conducted earlier this month.

Upcoming Webinars:

- Tuesday, October 22, at 10 a.m. ET. Register [here](#).
- Monday, October 28, at 1 p.m. ET. Register [here](#).

Drop-in help sessions will also be offered to answer questions and work through the AFR with a SCN Finance specialist. There will not be a presentation during drop-in help sessions. Join these sessions below:

Help Session Dates:

- Thursday, October 17, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. ET. Join [here](#).

- Friday, October 18, from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. ET. Join [here](#).
- Monday, October 21, from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. ET. Join [here](#).
- Thursday, October 24, from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. ET. Join [here](#).
- Tuesday, October 29, from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. ET. Join [here](#).

Reminders

Traditional Verification Period Has Begun

Verification samples are based on the number of approved applications on file as of October 1 each year. Sponsors with a 20% or higher non-response rate the previous year are required to conduct standard (error-prone) verification. Review the [verification method spreadsheet](#) and find your school to see if this verification is required. Sponsors able to select any method can choose any of the three options, including error-prone verification.

View the presentation slides from IDOE's verification webinar series below:

- [Traditional Verification Methods](#)
- [Verification Preparation](#)
- [Direct Verification](#)

For additional tools and resources, review IDOE's [Verification & Direct Verification webpage](#).

**Sponsors that operate CEP corporation-wide and residential child care institutions that do not have day students are exempt from verification.*

Updates from Our Partners

The Road to Successful Menu Planning for School Meals Training Series

Join Team Nutrition and the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) for free, live and recorded training on hot topics related to the Final Rule, "Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Pattern Consistent with 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans." The training series is designed to assist school food authorities, state agencies, and others in implementing the updated nutrition standards for school meals. Visit [here](#) to register for live training and view recorded training videos.

Lessons in Dairy: Hands-On Learning Experience For Sharing Dairy Nutrition and Farming

Join American Dairy Association Indiana on Wednesday, October 30, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET at Becks Agricultural Center in Lafayette for an event packed with fun and educational opportunities, including lunch, toolkits, and a tour of a local robotic dairy. More information and registration can be found [here](#).

Indiana School Nutrition Association (ISNA) 2024 Annual Conference

Register today for the 2024 ISNA Annual Conference! This year's conference will be held Wednesday, November 6, through Friday, November 8, at the Century Center in South Bend. ISNA has a great lineup of presenters and looks forward to reconnecting in person with colleagues from across the state. To view the agenda and register, visit the [ISNA conference website](#). Early bird registration ends Friday, September 20.

Upcoming Dates



Thursday, October 17, from 1 to 2 p.m. ET	AFR help session
Thursday, October 17, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Knife Skills - Cutting Vegetables
Friday, October 18, from 10 to 10:30 a.m. ET	AFR help session
Monday, October 21, from 11 to 11:30 a.m. ET	AFR help session

Tuesday, October 22, at 10 a.m. ET	AFR training webinar
Thursday, October 24, 11 to 11:30 a.m. ET	AFR help session
Thursday, October 24, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Knife Skills - Cutting Fruit
Monday, October 28, at 1 p.m. ET	AFR training webinar
Tuesday, October 29, from 10 to 10:30 a.m. ET	AFR help session
Wednesday, October 30	August Claim Deadline
Thursday, October 31, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Cooking Whole Grains - Techniques for Hot Dishes
Friday, November 1	2024 AFR Due
Wednesday, November 6, through Friday, November 8	ISNA Annual Conference
Thursday, November 7, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Cooking Whole Grains - Techniques for Chilled Dishes
Thursday, November 14, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET	Culinary Skills for School Meals webinar series: Super Simple Sauces

Additional Resources

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Department News

- [09/24/24](#) Sixteen Indiana Schools Named 2024 National Blue Ribbon Schools
- [09/19/24](#) More Students Have Access to a High-Quality Special Education Teacher Following Strategic Investments in Indiana's Educator Pipeline
- [09/11/24](#) Chronic Absenteeism Improves in Indiana for Second Year in a Row, Still Higher than Pre-Pandemic
- [09/06/24](#) Third Annual Red Carpet Event Celebrates Indiana's Top Schools and Educators
- [09/04/24](#) Indiana Department of Education Announces Indiana Teacher of the Year Top Three Finalists

Stay Connected with Indiana Department of Education:



If you recently contacted the IDOE, [please complete this survey](#) to share your experience.

SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:
[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Unsubscribe All](#) | [Help](#)

Powered by



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Cookie Statement](#) | [Help](#)