



July 10, 2017 - SFA Edition:

TX-UNPS Updates

Policy

Texas Farm Fresh Initiative

MENU Module Update

Attachments with this issue:

[SP36-2017 - 2017 Edition of the Eligibility Manual for School Meals](#)

[SP36-2017 - Memo for above](#)

[SP37-2017 - Flexibility for Co-Mingled Preschool Meals Questions and Answers](#)

[SP38-2017 - Compliance with and Enforcement of the Buy American Provision in the National School Lunch](#)

[SP39-2017 - Local Agency Procurement Reviews for School Food Authorities](#)

[CACFP16-2017 - Grain Based Desserts in the Child and Adult Care Food Program](#)

[USDA Summer Meals Newsletter for Sponsors - July Issue](#)

[New Food Buying Guide flyer](#)

This information is to keep you informed of any changes in policies and procedures and of new communication originating from the State Office this month.

TX-UNPS Updates

Application Packet Tips



"The Application Packet is not considered complete until the prior year's Food Safety Inspection Report has been submitted" is a warning message in TXUNPS. When CE's get this warning they need to complete the Food Safety Inspection located underneath the application tab and then resubmit the application packet for approval in TX-UNPS if the packet has been returned for correction.

USDA Policy Memos

SP36-2017 - *2017 Edition of the Eligibility Manual for School Meals* is attached as well as its corresponding memo.

SP37-2017 - *Flexibility for Co-Mingled Preschool Meals Questions and Answers* is attached.

SP38-2017 - *Compliance with and Enforcement of the Buy American Provision in the National School Lunch* is attached.

SP39-2017 - *Local Agency Procurement Reviews for School Food Authorities* is attached.

CACFP16-2017 - *Grain Based Desserts in the Child and Adult Care Food Program* is attached.

Revised ARM Sections

A **revised** ARM Section 8, *Breakfast*, Section 9, *Lunch*, Section 11, *Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) Meal Pattern*, and Section 20, *Competitive Food Nutrition Standards*, have been posted and released. It should be noted that ARM Section 11 was previously titled *Infant Feeding*. We have also posted ARM Update Guide 2016-2017 which gives details about the revisions. We are continuing to post ARM Update Guide 2015-2016, 2014-2015, and 2013-2014 so CEs have access to revision made during those school years.

You can find the ARM; ARM Update Guide 2016-2017, 2015-2016, 2014-2015, and 2013-2014; and a complete searchable ARM [here](#).

Please replace any previous version of ARM Section 8, 9, 11, and 20 that you may have saved.

Letters Released for SY2017-18

The following letters have been posted and released for the 2017-2018 School Year:

- Letter to Household, Predetermined Free Eligibility for Individual Student(s)
- Letter to Household, Predetermined Free Eligibility for Household
- Letter to Household, Eligibility Based on Household Meal Application

These letters replace last year's letters, which were titled:

- Letter of Approval/Denial
- Letter of Predetermined Eligibility - Direct Certification
- Letter of Predetermined Eligibility - Foster
- Letter of Predetermined Eligibility - Even Start, Head Start, or Early Head Start
- Letter of Predetermined Eligibility - Migrant
- Letter of Predetermined Eligibility - Direct Certification

The Letters can be accessed in the School Nutrition Programs Forms table [here](#), or in the NSLP Administration and Forms [here](#).

The Letter to Household, Eligibility Based on Free Milk Application has been posted and released. This letter replaces the Letter to Household of Approval/Denial of Free Milk, and can be accessed [here](#).

New Web-Based Interactive Food Buying Guide

On July 7, 2017, the Nutrition, Education, Training, and Technical Assistance (NETTA) Division in FNS' Child Nutrition Programs released the first phase of the new Web-based Interactive Food Buying Guide (FBG). The features associated with this release include search and navigation features, comparison features for yield information, and the ability for users to create and save favorite foods lists. The tool also incorporates an exciting new feature: the interactive Product Formulation Statement Workbook which allows manufacturers to easily search and populate selected food items, calculate their product's contribution statement, and generate a document that provides crediting information for CN Program Operators.

Please see the attached flyer which outlines the features.

The next phases to be released for School Year 2017-2018, will include the new interactive Recipe Analysis Workbook (RAW), a downloadable FBG, and a FBG Mobile App!

The Web-based Interactive Food Buying Guide can be found [here](#).

USDA Summer Meals Newsletter for Sponsors

The USDA Summer Meals Newsletter for Sponsors is attached and can also be found [here](#).

Texas Farm Fresh Initiative

Participate in the October Local Products Challenge!

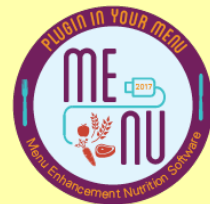


TDA challenge you to use more Texas products in cafeteria meals and will recognize participants that complete the challenge. Participating schools will receive a toolkit of Farm Fresh Fridays supportive materials, including buttons, stickers and static clings. There are many [resources](#) available online to help you plan and implement successful Farm Fresh Fridays activities and participate in the Local Products Challenge.

Register by July 15th to ensure you receive your Farm Fresh Fridays materials before September 1. Learn more about the challenge and pledge participation [here](#).

Please reach out to TDA at LocalProducts.SquareMeals@TexasAgriculture.gov with any questions or for additional information.

MENU Module Update



What Can MENU Module Do for You?

TDA Food and Nutrition division is proud to offer and support FREE nutritional analysis software for CEs participating in NSLP. Kickstart your school lunch program with the use of MENU Module to assure meal pattern compliance and automate your record keeping.

MENU Module also provides School Cafe, which markets school meals to parents and students. School Cafe is an online, mobile school-branded app. Parents and students can access upcoming school menus and the nutritional content of those menus. A 5-star rating system for menu items makes it easy for students and parents to provide feedback to the Child Nutrition Department. Visit Squaremeals.org for more information.

Training Videos

PrimeroEdge website training videos are YouTube links, so if a CE is having issues accessing they should seek assistance from their internal IT department as they may have a firewall blocking them. They should not contact TDA for this issue.

Logging In To MENU Module

Please contact TDA for TX-UNPS passwords and log-in issues for MENU Module, such as an animal appearing on your screen. Please do not contact PrimeroEdge if you are experiencing these issues. You may follow up by calling 1-877-TEX-MEAL.

[Click here for
previous issue.](#)

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