

Office of Nutrition Services

Town Hall

October 16, 2024

We will begin at 2:00 pm

Welcome

- Please use the “Q & A” option for all questions (not the chat box).
- MDE staff will only respond to questions in the Q & A so all participants can see the questions and answers.
- MDE staff will enter helpful links, etc. in the chat box for easy access.

Glad you could join us!

- Town Hall PowerPoints are posted on MDE's Food & Nutrition Programs main page. When on the MDE website, click on Services, Food & Nutrition Programs, then click on "Go to Food & Nutrition Programs."
- Professional Development Certificate for today's meeting will be added to the end of the slide deck when posted to the MDE website
- Upcoming Town Hall: December 4, 2024

Moment of Reflection

Patricia A. Wall (Patty)

Food Service Director at Holland and Saugatuck Public Schools

Passed away Friday, September 27, 2024

Patty worked over 20 years in School Nutrition Programs on the west side of Michigan

Her dedication to championing child nutrition will forever be appreciated and greatly missed

Fluid Milk Clarification

New Memo October 7, 2024 - SP 01-2025

Fat-free and low-fat, flavored and unflavored milk

Unflavored milk must be offered at breakfast and lunch

Allowable milk options: lactose-free and lactose-reduced milk, cultured milk, acidified milk and Ultra High Temperature (UTH) milk

Added sugar limit on flavored milk starts July 1, 2025

Nondairy fluid milk substitutes for non-disability reasons



Breakfast: Vegetable Substitution

New Memo SP 02-2025

Schools are not required to offer vegetables instead of fruit at breakfast

One vegetable substitution in a week = any vegetable subgroup

Serving vegetables twice in a week = 2 different vegetable subgroups

Up to half of the weekly fruit and vegetable servings may be offered in the form of juice



Reimbursement Rates (Memo No. 2)

Please see [Administrative Memo No. 2](#) for SY 24-25. It contains the reimbursement rates for breakfast, lunch and snack, as well as CACFP rates.

60 Day Claim Deadlines (Memo No. 3)

Please see [Administrative Memo No. 3](#) for SY 24-25. It provides the claim deadlines for SY 24-25.

- MDE recommends submitting meal claims by the 10th of the following month. However, 60 days past the end of the month is the final deadline.
- It is recommended to have two authorized users who can certify and submit claims in MIND 2.0. This will allow a second user to submit a claim in the event the main authorized user is unable to submit.

Local Wellness Policy

Reminder: Triennial assessment must be completed every three years.

Online resources available.

Special Diets

- Reasonable accommodations for disability or medical need.
- Signed diet statement to make meal reimbursable
MD, DO, PA, NP, RD
- Questions? Contact Emily Mattern MatternE@michigan.gov

Applications and Forms

Education and Nutrition Benefits Applications

- Must continue to collect and process applications for any non-CEP schools
- Claims are based on free, reduced-price, and paid student benefit so an approved application is needed to determine the correct benefit
- Through the Michigan School Meals program, meals are free for all students, but claims are still based on individual student benefit

Education Benefits Forms

- Must continue to collect and process forms for any CEP schools
- Claims are based on total meals served (no student benefit needed) but districts will use student benefits for other reasons (e.g. state school aid, pay to play sports, testing fees)

Verification

- All schools and districts that participate in the NSLP, are not CEP, and have approved Education and Nutrition Benefits applications are required to conduct Verification.
- Sample should be based on approved current school year applications as of October 1.
- The deadline for completing Verification is November 15, 2024.
- Verification forms and instructions are available on the MDE website.
- The results of verification are reported in the School Food Authority Verification Collection Report (SFA-VCR), which should be available late December.

Direct Certification

- Districts and nonpublic schools are required to run Direct Certification a minimum of three times during the school year as follows:
 - At or around the beginning of the school year
 - Three months after the initial effort
 - Six months after the initial effort
- Exceptions:
 - Special Milk program and Residential Child Care Institutions
 - CEP schools are required to run direct certification at least once a school year
- Direct Certification template letters are posted to the SNP [Direct Certification](#) page.
- The direct certification refresh dates are posted for SY 2024-2025 on the CEPI calendar, available at <https://www.michigan.gov/cepi/calendar>

Direct Certification with Medicaid

- Pandemic Medicaid Benefits completely expired in May 2024
- Sponsors are experiencing a decrease in the number of Directly Certified students for SY 24-25
- Recommend sending out Education and Nutrition Benefits applications or Education Benefit Forms (CEP Only) to households that have been DC-Medicaid the last few years

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Elections

- MDE has a waiver to extend CEP elections through December 2024
- Under Michigan School Meals, when eligible, schools must participate in CEP to maximize federal reimbursement
- MDE will be reaching out to eligible districts to elect or expand their CEP participation
 - ISP eligibility threshold changed from 40% to 25% last year
 - Mid-cycle sponsors can still reapply for a higher eligibility
- Questions about CEP may be directed to Natalee Mickelson at MickelsonN@michigan.gov

Professional Standards

- Training Standards for School Nutrition Program Professionals is required annually
- Food Service Management Contract (FSMC) Overseers* must meet the same Professional Standards as Food Service Directors

Job Category	Annual Training Requirements
Directors*	12 hours
Managers	10 hours
All Other Staff (≥20 hours/wk)	6 hours
Part-Time Staff (≤20 hours/wk)	4 hours

Food Safety

- Upcoming ServSafe Manager Class & Exam Opportunities:
- MISD, Clinton Township (December 7)
- Michigan State University (MSU) Extension (multiple dates)
- Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association (MRLA) (multiple dates)



Food Allergy Posters



- New State & local food allergen posters available
- Request from your Local Health Department or Print Your Own:



BrucePac Recall

- Bruce Pac has recalled approximately 11,765,285 pounds of ready-to-eat (RTE) meat and poultry products due to *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination.
- USDA Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) was notified that schools in Michigan received recalled product through commercial channels.
 - This recall does not involve USDA Foods.

BrucePac Recall (continued)

Recall Products/Labels



Questions regarding the recall?

- Jeff Golangco at BrucePac
- 503-874-3000

2025 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)

- Expected Awards Announced September 2024
- 2025 FFVP FY started October 1, 2024



2024 FFVP Grantee Reminders

Last day of the 2024 Fiscal Year was September 30, 2024

NexSys Deadline: 5 pm ET, November 29, 2024

- Any remaining draw downs must be entered and certified
- Final Expenditure Report (FER) must be completed

Questions?

- Phone: 517-335-1558
- Email: mde-ffvp@michigan.gov

FID School Meals Report SY23-24 Errors

- The Financial Information Database (FID) School Meals Report closes November 1st
- Emails will be sent to public school districts that have errors
 - Cost per Meal errors may significantly impact State Aid funding
 - (30d MSM, 31d & 31f)
- Corrections must be made by Wednesday November 20th
- Here is a link to a guidance document to assist with coding and FID submissions: [SY23-24 FID School Meals Report Coding and Submission Tips](#)
- Questions? Contact our Fiscal Monitoring Team at: MDE-Fiscal@michigan.gov

Think you have an Excess Fund Balance from SY 23-24, now what?

- Verify on Audited Financial Statements, FID School Meals Report or CNP-YER
- Plan now!
 - Maximize the time needed to determine allowability, get prior approval, procure and spend down the funds by June 30, 2025.
 - Reminder not getting prior approval, if necessary, has financial implications
- Funds must be spent on food service program improvements to benefit students
 - Focus on the best food quality
 - Speed of Service (additional staffing, more POS stations, etc.)
 - Purchasing needed supplies, services, or equipment
- Resources available at: www.michigan.gov/mde-fast

Financial Implications



- Unallowable Cost
- Entire kitchen/cafeteria renovation could be unallowable to the tune of **\$1,000,000 or more!**
- Funds must be restored to the Food Service Fund from the General Fund
- See the guidance: [When do you Need Pre-Approval for Food Service Equipment/Capital Outlay Purchases?](#)

Unanticipated School Closure (USC)

- USC allows sponsors to quickly respond to unanticipated school closures due to natural disasters, unscheduled major building repairs, court orders relating to school safety or other issues, labor-management disputes, or similar unanticipated causes.
- Sponsors can serve through USC in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the School Breakfast Program (SBP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), and the At-risk After School Program in Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).
- The waiver can be used for up to 10 days, however if the USC lasts longer than 10 days, additional days may be requested.

USC Through 12 (I) Waivers

During USC, waivers allow for:

- Non-congregate meal service during USC
 - The SFSP and CACFP programs may distribute up to seven days' worth of meals
 - The NSLP program may distribute up to five days' worth of meals
- Flexibility of meal service times
- Parent and guardian meal pick-up
- Offer versus serve is waived for senior high school
- Waived enrichment activities for At-risk Afterschool, CACFP

USC Through 12 (I) Waivers (Continued)

- To serve meals through USC using 12 (I) waivers, sponsors must watch the recorded training titled, [Meal Service for Unanticipated School Closure \(USC\) for All Child Nutrition Programs](#)
- Complete the [Meal Service During Unanticipated School Closure Request Form](#) located on the [SFSP website](#) under How to Apply
- USC- SFSP **only**: Sponsors must amend their CNP: Coordinated Application in NexSys and update the calendar for days the site served meals.

Meal Service During Unanticipated School Closure Request Form

Complete and submit the form if:

- There is an unanticipated school closure, and you would like to serve **non-congregate** meals
- Virtual learning taking place, claim through NSLP
- No virtual learning, claim through SFSP
- CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Program is providing non-congregate Supper and or snack, claim through CACFP

Healthy Meals Incentives (HMI) Recognition Awards

- The Healthy Meals Initiatives (HMI) Recognition Awards celebrate sponsors that have made significant improvements to the nutritional quality of their school meals, and spotlight innovative practices and student and community engagement activities
- Rolling application deadline, closes **June 30, 2025**
- State agency letter of support required to apply – request letter of support from MDE [here](#)



10 Cents a Meal for Michigan's Kids and Farms



Photo by Sarah Rypma

- 2024-2025 program year, 251 grantees
- Welcome Webinar
 - Thursday, October 24 9-10am
- Purchase submission and reporting trainings
 - 8 regional sessions, in-person
- MDE-FarmtoProgram@Michigan.gov



October is Farm to School Month!

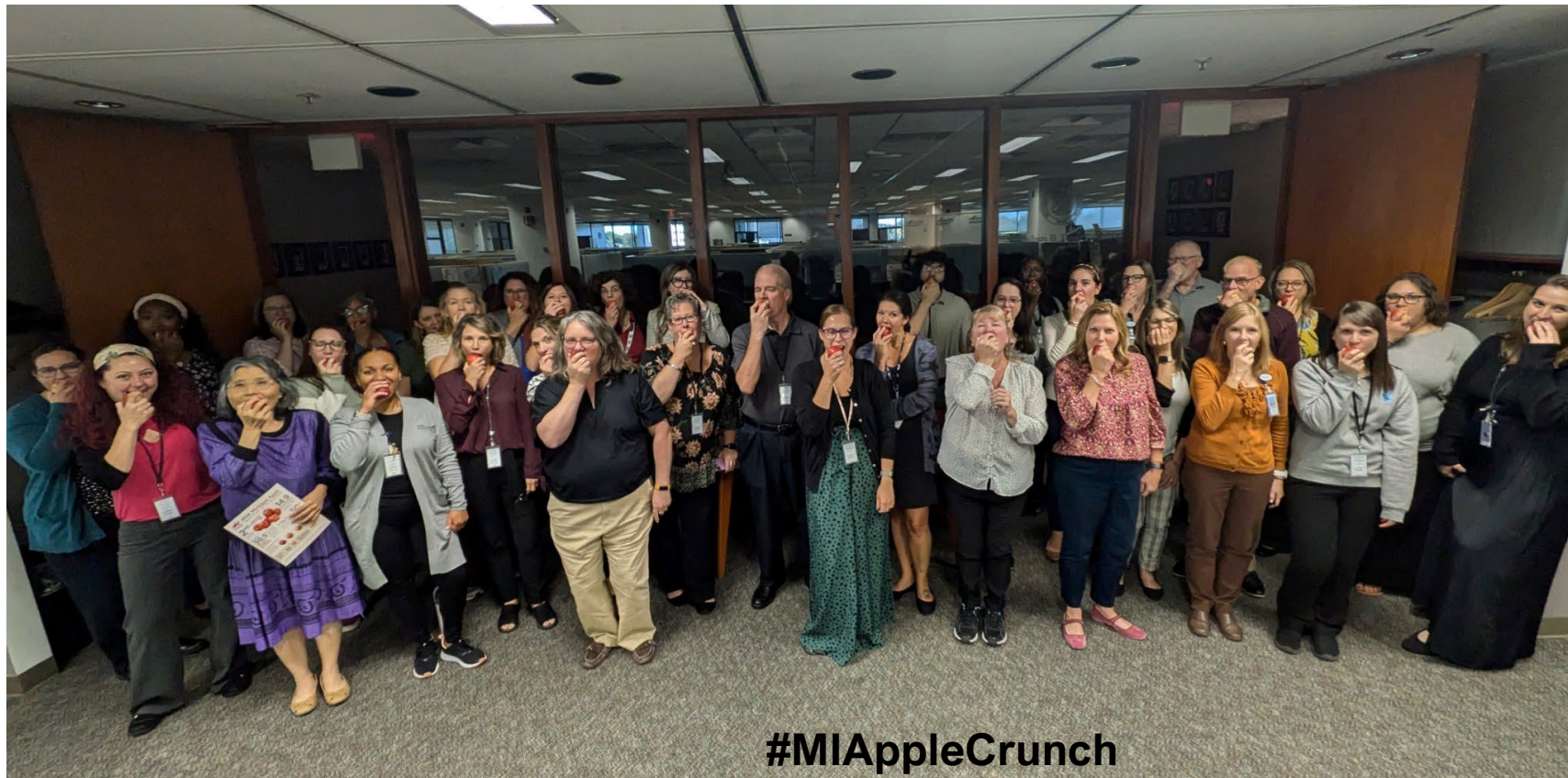
- National School Lunch week
 - October 14 – 18, 2024
 - Free resources from National Farm to School Network
 - Michigan Ag Facts and Figures



Photo by Sarah Rypma

Michigan Apple Crunch

October 17, 2024, or any day that works!



Summer-EBT 2025

- Important to ensure updated address information in the Michigan Student Data System
- Students in traditional claim (aka non-CEP) schools, eligible via the Education and Nutrition Benefits application
- Encourage families to provide updated address information and work with pupil accounting staff to submit those new addresses

School Meals Overview Workshop

November 19 & 20, 2024

Portage Public Schools

Portage, MI

- Online registration
- Register for one or both days
- No cost to attend
- Lunch on your own

January 14 & 15, 2025

Wayne RESA

Wayne, MI

Online Training Modules

New Modules

SNP: Afterschool Snack Program

CACFP: Feeding Infants

CACFP: Sponsoring Organizations
Monitoring

CACFP: Building Creditable
Menus and Best Practices

Updated with April 2024 Final Rule

NSLP: Meal Components Part 1
and 2

SNP: Dietary Specifications

SNP: Offer vs Serve

SNP: Smart Snacks

Tuesday at 2 Upcoming Topics

10/22/24 – Celebrate Farm to School Month

10/29/24 – Claims and Payments

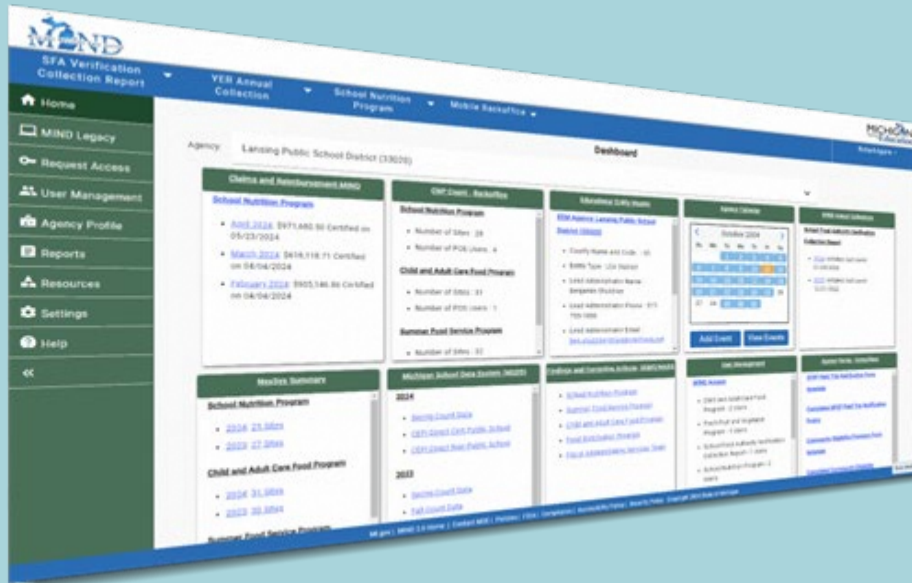
11/12/24 – Preschool Meal Pattern

11/19/24 – Procurement Reviews FAQ

12/3/24 – Production Records

12/17/24 – General Procurement FAQ

Coming Soon! New MIND Dashboard



First Release (Late October): Dashboard and portal to NexSys, MIND and GEMS/MARS Data

Help Documents Available:

- MIND Dashboard
- MIND Request Access
- MIND User Management
- MIND Year End Report

MDE-SNAM Annual Conference & Exhibit Show

- November 7-10, 2024
- Grand Traverse Resort & Spa
 - Make your [hotel reservation](#) now
- Attendee [registration](#) is open!



Pre-Conference session for MDE-SNAM

Prioritizing local purchasing with Bertrand Weber,
Director, Culinary and Wellness Services, Minneapolis Public Schools

Do you wish you had more support and ideas for:

- Menu planning with local foods
 - Fitting in seasonally available produce
 - Scratch cooking, speed scratch cooking and where to start
- Cost management, including
 - Maximizing USDA donated foods
 - Menu balancing
 - How does 10 Cents a Meal fit?
- Local procurement
 - New final rule
 - Finding vendors
 - RFPs and forward contracting



Photo by Sarah Rypma

This is a pre-conference add on opportunity from 9am – 12pm on Thursday, November 7.



Thank you

Questions?

Enter your questions in the
Q&A box