

# National School Lunch Program

Bulletin

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

***Child Nutrition Programs***

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To: Local Educational Agencies Date:  October 1, 2019

From: Elizabeth Seitz, NSLP Program Coordinator Bulletin: 2020-2

***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

* 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
* SP32-2019 Buy American and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018
* SP30-2019 Reminder: Requirements for Students Transferring from Provision to non-Provision Schools - **See Attachment under September bulletin**

## Additional Topics

* School Lunch Week
* ***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

* **SP41-2019 Salad Bars in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program** USDA encourages the use of salad bars in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) because salad bars are effective at increasing access to and consumption of a variety of fruits and vegetables, as encouraged by the 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans

***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 This revision includes policy changes and general updates to outdated resources/website links and updated questions and answers.*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 memorandum changes the policy for commercially prepared smoothies. Commercially prepared smoothies can now contribute to the meat/meat alternate, fruit, vegetable, and milk components of the Federal meal requirements for all Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs). Allowing commercially prepared products provides variety to Program operators seeking to include appealing and nutritious smoothies on their menus.

***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** The NSLP regulations at 7 CFR 210.10(a)(1)(i) require schools to make water available and accessible to children during the meal service. Similarly, the SBP regulations at 7 CFR 220.8(a)(1) require schools to make water available and accessible during the meal service if breakfast is served in the cafeteria. While water must be made available, schools must not directly or indirectly restrict the sale or marketing of fluid milk (7 CFR 210.10(d)(4)).

***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 memorandum includes questions and answers updated to incorporate changes codified by two final rules *(1) Child and Adult Care Food Program: Meal Pattern Revisions Related to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of* 2010 (81 CFR 24348, published April 25, 2016) and *(2) Child Nutrition Programs: Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements* (83 FR 63775, December 12, 2018). This document also includes updated crediting questions and a new Resources section. Outdated references, citations, and questions have been removed throughout the document, and minor edits were made to clarify content.

***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 memorandumis theQuestions and Answers (QAs) on the final rule *Child Nutrition Programs: Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements (83 FR 63775, December 12, 2018)*, which provides menu planning flexibilities in the Child Nutrition Programs beginning July 1, 2019.

***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** Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has issued a suite of memoranda providing updated guidance for operators in the Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs), including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Special Milk Program for Children, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Summer Food Service Program. These new memoranda do not include additional requirements, but are intended to help Program operators implement recent regulatory changes and provide clarification to existing policies and regulations.

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

* **SP32-2019 Buy American and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018**

This memorandum was released in the September bulletin.

***Sponsors:*** *Please note Alaska is exempt from this requirement, but we encourage Buy American whenever possible as a best practice.*

* **SP30-2019 Reminder: Requirements for Students Transferring from Provision to non-Provision Schools** – This USDA policy was released in the August bulletin.

## Additional Topics

* **School Lunch Week October 14-18, 2019** Mark your calendar for National School Lunch Week! What’s on your events list? With the wide variety of flavors, dishes, delivery options and tastes that can be customized in today’s school lunch, what great plans do you have in your program? Let us know what fun events you’re planning to hold.

**Send me an email at** **Elizabeth.seitz@alaska.gov** **with the details of your event, and let me know how it turned out!!**

* ***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 (Elizabeth.Seitz@alaska.gov) or 907.465.8709 or Debbie Soto (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 State Records Manager (SRM) required**

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

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

This institution is an equal opportunity