

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CHILD AND ADULT CARE  
3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING *Food Program*  
EDUCATION, EXERCISE AND EATING RIGHT

March 9, 2021

Embedded attachments with this issue

## Refer to the COVID page for Updates

Your Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) newsletter has returned, but the [SquareMeals COVID page](#) will still be your source for all COVID-19-related regulatory information. The most current information regarding program operations that have been modified due to COVID-19 will continue to be found on our Coronavirus page to ensure that TDA shares updates from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in a way that is timely and consistent.

# CACFP LIVE

Texas Education Service Center's Live • Interactive • Virtual • Environment

The CACFP LIVE! session for March has been cancelled. As another option, CEs may view the [recording](#) of the CACFP LIVE Session on *Enrollment and Eligibility* that was conducted last fall. In addition, you may want to review the corresponding [Session Guide & PY20 FAQ](#), pp. 24-26. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, reach out to your local ESC Specialist.

During the months of April and May, we will be conducting SFSP LIVE Sessions. ESC Specialists will return to offering monthly CACFP LIVE Sessions on June 9, 2021. We hope to see you then!

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Registration for all LIVE Sessions are offered by your local ESC Specialist.

Link to the LIVE Google Site [here](#) for more information and resources, including the PY21 schedule of events.

## Policy



### ***RELEASE: 2020-2021 School Data Report***

TDA must, on an annual basis, publish a list of schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) in which at least one-half of the children enrolled are certified eligible for free or reduced-price meals. The report for 2020-2021, based on February 2020 claims data, has been posted to SquareMeals in the following locations:

<http://www.squaremeals.org/Programs/ChildandAdultCareFoodProgram/CACFPAdministration&Forms.aspx>

<http://www.squaremeals.org/Programs/SummerFeedingPrograms/SummerFeedingAdministration&Forms.aspx>

### ***Federal Register Posting: Income Eligibility Guidelines in the Child Nutrition Programs***

The Federal Register posting with the new *Child Nutrition Programs: Income Eligibility Guidelines for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022* is now available. The [income eligibility guidelines](#) located on SquareMeals have been updated. Individual program forms containing this information will be updated soon.

### ***2021/2022 CACFP Input Workgroup Membership Application***

The application for membership for the 2021/2022 CACFP Input Workgroup is now available. The CACFP Input Workgroup offers Contracting Entities from across Texas the opportunity to provide input to TDA on the impact of policy and procedures related to operating the CACFP. Please take some time to learn more about the CACFP Input Workgroup by visiting TDA's website [here](#). This webpage includes information on the current Workgroup, past meeting agendas and meeting minutes, and key accomplishments of past Workgroups. CACFP Contracting Entities will be notified by email when the application period is open.

## Compliance

### ***Paycheck Protection Program Usage***

Many CEs took advantage of the federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funding last spring. While disbursed as a loan, it is possible for a CE who has these funds on their books as a liability to have the loan reclassified as a grant, which will cause some potentially interesting accounting practices to occur related to a CE's non-profit status and viability review. Please be sure to talk with your bookkeeper, accountant or CPA to ensure



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In addition, during the course of an administrative review, Community Operations administrative review specialists (ARS) will identify whether or not you received Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funds and if so, how you used them to support your CACFP program. Your accounting system should be able to distinguish between PPP funds and your CACFP reimbursement funds, track the disbursement of the PPP funds, and clearly identify how the funds were used. Care must be taken to ensure that you are not unintentionally substituting the use of PPP funds for expenses that your CACFP funding are designed to cover, especially if your CACFP reimbursements have increased over the course of the last year under the various waivers that the USDA has authorized. Substituting the use of PPP funds to pay for expenses expected to be covered by CACFP funds is called “supplanting”, and supplanting is never allowed under any federal grant or loan program.

## Resources

### *National CACFP Week*

National CACFP Week starts **March 14**. Please visit [www.Squaremeals.org/CACFPWeek](http://www.Squaremeals.org/CACFPWeek) for resources such as new recipes, sample menus with shopping lists, taste testing tips, activity sheets and a newly added PR template to let your community know how you are participating. We also have messages going out on TDA's facebook and twitter accounts if you'd like to follow and repost on your own social media accounts. Please use the hashtag #CACFPWeek. Send photos to [MealAppeal@texasagriculture.gov](mailto:MealAppeal@texasagriculture.gov) to be featured in our next newsletter!

### *Gear up for National Nutrition Month!*

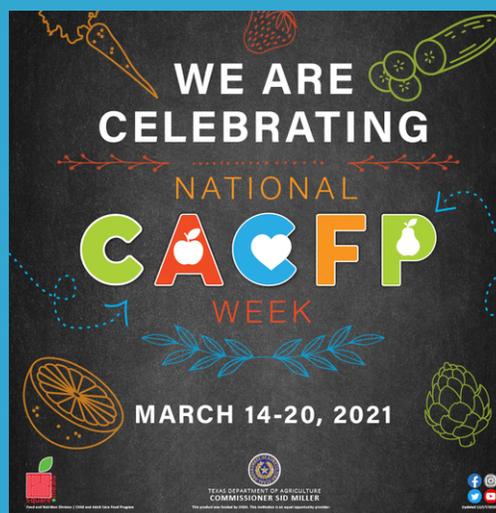
**National Nutrition Month®** is an annual campaign created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During the month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits. This year's theme, *Personalize Your Plate*, promotes nutritious meal creation that meets individuals' cultural and personal food preferences. Check out the [Academy's website](#) to find resources in English and Spanish to spread the message of good nutrition and the importance of an overall healthy lifestyle. Check out [USDA's Women Infant and Children \(WIC\) resource page](#) for additional resources. Remember to use #NationalNutritionMonth if you are covering it on your social media pages.

### *Upcoming Webinar*

On March 18, 2021, USDA's Team Nutrition initiative will present *Crediting Store-Bought Combination Baby Foods in the CACFP*. This upcoming webinar will show Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) operators how to identify store-bought combination baby foods that can be served as part of reimbursable meals or snacks to infants. Use the following registration links:

- \* 2-2:30 p.m. ET English Webinar: [\[Register here\]](#)
- \* 3-3:30 p.m. ET Spanish Webinar: [\[Register here\]](#)

View previous webinars on Team Nutrition's CACFP Halftime: [Thirty on Thursdays Webinar Series](#).



A new feature is available on the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs (FBG) Mobile App. The Mobile App now allows users to customize the Serving Size per Meal Contribution for fruits and vegetables using a drop-down menu to auto-calculate the amount to purchase based on the selected serving size. This feature was recently released on the FBG Interactive Web-based Tool.

Download the FREE Food Buying Guide Mobile App on the Apple Store or Google Play today!

### ***Mealtime Memo Subscription***

Mealtime Memo is a blog-styled electronic newsletter distributed by The Institute of Child Nutrition. Each month, the MTM features a different theme and contains popular food themes, what's in season, food facts for kids and a sneak peek into next month's themes. Subscribe [here](#).



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