

September 2023 Monthly Newsletter



Turnip the Beet Deadline Extended to September 8!

The deadline for 2023 Turnip the Beet award applications has been extended until September 8, 2023. Visit **SquareMeals** to find the nomination form and application tips. Submit your complete applications to **Nutrition@TexasAgriculture.gov**.

NEW! Child Nutrition Program Integrity Final Rule

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service published a final rule on program integrity to ensure that child nutrition programs are properly operated and managed to protect federal funds and taxpayer dollars. The final rule impacts regulations for the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Summer Food Service Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Program. Click the headline for more information.

Important Information about Health Coverage among Child Nutrition Program Participants

USDA and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have provided resources and important reminders for Child Nutrition Program participants with Medicaid or Children's Health

Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage in the wake of the end of the Federal public health emergency (PHE). Click the headline for more information.

Policy

A revised Pre-Award Civil Rights Compliance Review Form has been posted and released. This was a minor update to reflect language in FNS Instruction 113-1 about Civil Rights compliance reviews within the two years prior to program application. The revised form can be accessed from the TDA website as follows:

- School Nutrition Programs in the **School Nutrition Programs Forms table**
- Summer Meal Programs in the <u>SFSP Forms table</u>
- Child and Adult Care Food Program in the **CACFP Forms table**

News

Claim Processing Days - Tuesday and Thursday

The internal cut-off time for claim submission on processing days is noon. Our team will process all claims submitted before the noon deadline on the processing day. This deadline will ensure staff have adequate time to review your submission before sending your payment to the Comptroller. Claim submissions received after the deadline will be processed on the next processing day.

TX-UNPS Claim Processing Fiscal Year-End Close

Due to State Fiscal Year-End Close, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts did not process claims for payment after 3 p.m. on August 22, 2023, through September 4, 2023. Claim processing resumed on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. You may continue to submit your claims to TX-UNPS during this time. Please note that the deadline to submit your June 2023 claims is Tuesday, August 29, 2023.





TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

This product was funded by USDA.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.









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