

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



# CHILD AND ADULT CARE

3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING  
EDUCATION, EXERCISE AND EATING RIGHT

Food Program

## August 2023 Monthly Newsletter

### Technical Assistance

Have questions, need information or assistance?

- Visit the [TX-UNPS training page](#) to access training videos, the TX-UNPS User Manual and additional training resources.
- Call (877) TEX-MEAL or email [CACFP.BOps@texasagriculture.gov](mailto:CACFP.BOps@texasagriculture.gov)
- (877) TEX-MEAL (Se habla Español)



### Resources

#### Beat the Heat! Indoor Activities for Children

Stay cool and hydrated this summer and use this TDA resource for fun indoor activities! Explore 40 pages of nutrition-based flash cards, counting, and coloring – [Download here!](#)

#### Healthy Eating Tips

Check out these resources that feature healthy eating tips for [infants](#) and [toddlers](#). You can share the importance of offering a variety of nutritious food groups and tips for trying new, safe foods! Available in English and Spanish.

#### ICN - Read All About It

Check out this opportunity and resources from the Institute of Child Nutrition!

- Join an Exploratory Task Force! Consider applying to share your thoughts and experiences in ICNs training resources to help build a more user-friendly website – [Apply here!](#)
- Check out the [Child Nutrition on Demand](#) series and hear the experiences of child nutrition professionals on different topics like Financial Management, Inventory Management, Marketing, and more!

### **Reminder: CACFP PY24 Training**

Use the link above to find the desired training program and view the classes, resources, and study materials available to you based on that specific category.

TDA will no longer test applications for compatibility in Internet Explorer. You need to download a new internet browser to continue to access TDA resources without error. Many web browsers are available, including Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, or Safari (Apple computers only), which can be downloaded free of charge.

Classroom Training for CACFP, NSLP, SFSP, USDA Foods, and other topics are available at no cost at your local Education Service Center.

### **Now Available! Crediting Grains in the Child Nutrition Programs Tip Sheets!**

They provide guidance on crediting grains in a quick reference format for Program operators across all Child Nutrition Programs and are broken down into three topics:

- Part 1: Creditable Grains in Child Nutrition Programs
- Part 2: Identifying Grain Products that are Whole Grain-Rich
- Part 3: Program Requirements

Each tip sheet has its own question-and-answer section. Program operators are encouraged to use these resources to provide guidance and training.

## Now Available! New Food Yields Added to the Food Buying Guide and FBG Mobile App

New yields are now available in the [Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs](#) Interactive Web-based (FBG) Tool and FBG Mobile App! New yield data is available for: individually quick-frozen red beans, frozen diced potatoes, frozen cubed sweet potatoes, brown lentils, and canned black turtle beans. Stay tuned for additional yield data releases coming soon.

## 2023 CACFP Input Workgroup

TDA has announced the 12 CACFP Input Workgroup Members. Please visit [SquareMeals.org/CACFPWorkgroup](https://SquareMeals.org/CACFPWorkgroup) for the complete list! CACFP Workgroup members and TDA are excited about the partnership opportunity to ensure growth and success of the CACFP in Texas! If you have topics for discussion to include on an upcoming agenda or ideas you would like to bring to the attention of the committee, please communicate your ideas to a current workgroup member.



## **Farm Fresh Challenge!**

Pledge now to participate in the **Farm Fresh Challenge** in October. The Challenge is open to NSLP and CACFP operators and all are encouraged to Eat Local, Teach Local, and Be Social throughout the month of October

and beyond! Pledge by September 13 to receive a pledge toolkit with items such as buttons, stickers, or static clings.

## Policy and News

### **New CACFP FAQs Published for Program Year 2023-2024**

TDA has published a new set of Frequently Asked Questions for CACFP. The FAQs are published under the Policy News and Updates Module on the **CACFP Policy/Handbook page**. (Hint: Click the + button next to "Policy News and Updates" to expand the module). Note the CACFP FAQs are now only available on this page. TDA will pin this entry to the top of this Policy Updates and News module and update as required. Please bookmark this page and check back frequently.

### **PY 2023-2024 CACFP Reimbursement Rates Published**

The 2023-2024 reimbursement rates for the Child and Adult Care Food Program have been posted on the **CACFP Reimbursement Rates** page. Note that all Keep Kids Fed Act provisions, including the temporary \$0.10 supplemental per meal reimbursement and the provision allowing for Tier II day care home providers to be reimbursed at the Tier I rate, expired June 30, 2023. The new rates reflect an adjustment to the base rate from Program Year (SY) 2022–2023.

### **SY 2023-2024 Special Provisions Carryover Reports**

An updated version of the **SY 2023-2024 special provisions carryover reports** are posted to SquareMeals.org.

### **Getting an Administrative Review (AR)**

During an AR, CEs can expect TDA staff to review all records CEs are required to maintain and observe meal service at select sites. Reviews are conducted to determine a CE's compliance with the program requirements as detailed in the following:

- USDA Food and Nutrition Service and TDA Food and Nutrition CACFP handbooks
- FNS Instruction 796-2, Financial Management – Child and Adult Care Food Program
- The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
- The CE's Permanent Agreement and amendments (when applicable)

Additionally, during a review, CE compliance with its application and management plan as submitted to TDA is also determined.

### **Remaining COVID-19 Flexibilities and Keep Kids Fed Act Provisions Expired June 30, 2023.**

All waivers and flexibilities associated with the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and the Keep Kids Fed Act (KKFA) of 2022 expired June 30, 2023. Click **here** or click the headline for more information.

### **Application Tools - CACFP Application Packet Streamlined Checklist**

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Checklist has been updated to provide a more streamlined user experience. Use this link for [CACFP Application Packet Streamlined Checklist](#).

## CACFP Renewal Applications for 2023-2024 open in TX-UNPS

CACFP Renewal Applications for 2023-2024 opened in TX-UNPS on July 1, 2023. We recommend submitting your application by the following DUE DATES:

- August 15, 2023, if you were notified that you are a Tier 3 Renewal, and/or if you are a Dual Sponsor (a sponsor of Centers as well as Day Care Homes).
- August 30, 2023, if you are a sponsoring organization, a Tier 2 Renewal, and/or are making significant changes to your previously approved application packet.
- September 1, 2023, if you are an independent center and/or Tier 1 renewal.

## CEs Not Renewing

CEs that do not wish to renew their participation must submit a written request to terminate their FND Permanent Agreement by mutual consent no later than September 30 of the current program year. Written notification should be emailed to [CACFP.Bops@TexasAgriculture.gov](mailto:CACFP.Bops@TexasAgriculture.gov).



## Learn your Mission at

## CACFP LIVE!

The topic for August is “Take the CACFP AR from Mission Impossible to POSSIBLE!” starting at 10 a.m. on August 9. Join in to learn and prepare for critical areas of the review process - [Register with your ESC!](#)

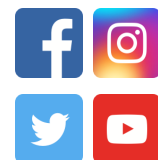
## TDA Jobs

Come and join us at the Texas Department of Agriculture! [www.texasagriculture.gov/About/Employment](http://www.texasagriculture.gov/About/Employment)



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**COMMISSIONER SID MILLER**

This product was funded by USDA.  
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