



Summer Meals Newsletter

Upcoming USDA/Partner Webinars:

[School's Out, Food's In: Successful Partnerships to Strengthen Summer Meals Programming](#)

Thursday, February 14, 2019 | 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST
Share our Strength, No Kid Hungry

[Afterschool Meals Matter Conference Call: Partnering with Food Banks](#)

Thursday, February 21, 2019 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST
Food Research & Action Center

Did you know?

USDA has a Flickr website filled with images of USDA programs, clients, and food that you can use! USDA photographers are continuously capturing the great work of Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) programs. We recently added new albums that highlight some of the great food assistance work happening around the country. There are also lots of photos of school meals, farmers markets, and other food images. Check out the [USDA Flickr here!](#)



Promoting Summer Meals!

It is never too early to create an outreach plan to promote Summer Meals in your communities. Start by connecting with schools in your communities! Ask if they can help you reach children before they leave for the Summer. Schools can help by distributing flyers or emailing parents or guardians. FNS has free promotional materials available for download [online](#).

In case you missed it!

FNS released the [Food Buying Guide](#) (FBG) Calculator as part of the Child Nutrition Programs Interactive Web-Based Tool. The FBG Calculator was first created and hosted by the Institute of Child Nutrition. It has been added to the [Food Buying Guide Interactive Web-Based](#) tool in order to create a one stop shop for all Food Buying Guide resources.

The FBG Calculator is designed to assist sponsors with creating a shopping list to streamline food ordering needs for their programs and may be accessed along with the other Food Buying Guide resources [here](#).

New Digital Nutrition Education Resources for Middle Schoolers

The USDA Team Nutrition released [Fueling My Healthy Life](#), a new web-based nutrition education curriculum for middle schoolers. These materials include online lesson plans, informational text articles, student assessments, videos, digital badges, and interactive activities.

These resources can support sponsors who are looking to incorporate new activities at their summer site. The materials stress the importance of breakfast and show sponsors how they can use [MyPlate](#) as a guide to building a healthy breakfast.



Upcoming Conferences

[National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference](#)
Food Research and Action Center and Feeding America
February 24-26, 2019 - Washington, DC

[Rural Child Hunger Summit](#)
No Kid Hungry
March 21-21, 2019 - Louisville, KY

[New England Farm to Institution Summit](#)
Farm to Institution New England
April 2-4, 2019 - Amherst, MA

[National Child Nutrition Conference](#)
National CACFP Sponsors Association
April 23-25, 2019 - Chicago, IL

Partner Resources

No Kid Hungry's Center for Best Practices recently updated their [Playbook](#). The Playbook provides guidance and resources tailored to specific audiences. The Playbook also includes a section for sponsors interested in making summer and after school meal programs more robust and accessible.