



Summer Meals Newsletter

Upcoming USDA/Partner Events:

[Summer Meals Matters Call: Debriefing Summer - What Worked, What Didn't, What Next?](#)

Thursday, September 5, 2019

1:00 - 2:00 PM EST

Food Research and Action Center



Summer Wrap-Up

A big thank you to all the sponsors who worked tirelessly this summer to ensure that the 22 million children who receive free and reduced-price meals during the school year also have access to meals when school is out. FNS knows that without the hard work and dedication of SFSP sponsors, the program would not be able to serve over 140 million nutritious meals and snacks.

As you wrap up your summer operation, remember to:

- Ensure all claims for reimbursement have been filed;
- Consolidate daily meal counts;
- Submit reimbursement claims;
- Reflect on the summer with site administrators; and
- Revise menus as needed.

Thank you again for your commitment to serving kids nutritious meals and snacks. We hope to continue to work with you next summer.

Now Available! The Exhibit A Grains Tool - Part 2!

A new enhancement to the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs Interactive Web-Based Tool, Part 2 of the Exhibit A Grains Tool, is now available.

The tool determines the ounce equivalent (oz eq) grains or grains/ bread serving(s) for the grain product. The second part to the Exhibit A Grains Tool includes an additional capability to determine the number of servings a program needs to serve to obtain a specific meal pattern contribution. Part 1 of the Exhibit A Grains Tool was released on June 10th. Stay tuned for the release of the completed Exhibit A Grains Tool in the Mobile App this summer!

Check out the Exhibit A Grains Tool today at: <https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/>.



SFSP Infographics Now Available

USDA is excited to share 4 new infographics. The infographics present data on SFSP operations and characteristics at the state, sponsor, and site levels. The survey data was collected in the summer of 2015 from nationally representative samples of SFSP sponsors and sites (all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico) and nationally representative samples of SFSP sponsors and sites. Click here to see more: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/fns-info-graphics>

FNS Fills the Summer Meal Gap in Rural Areas

This summer, two USDA agencies, FNS and Rural Development (RD), are once again partnering to provide free, nutritious meals to children in rural areas.

FNCS Deputy Under Secretary Brandon Lipps joined RD Virginia State Director Elizabeth Green on June 18 to kick-off the summer meals season at the Laurel Woods Apartments, a Multi-Family Housing site in Ashland, Virginia.

To read the full blog click here: <https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2019/06/21/fns-fills-summer-meal-gap-rural-areas>