



School Nutrition Programs

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

This weekly newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is dedicated to providing education, training, and technical assistance opportunities to school nutrition professionals, helping to ensure seamless operations for those participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Child Nutrition Programs. If you are the food service contact for your school or facility, please be certain that everyone on your team has access to this important information.

Tip of the Week

Please Print Certificates from Moodle

IDOE's School Nutrition training platform will be transitioning from Moodle to a new online platform, The Nutrition Hub, on Wednesday, July 1. To ensure no training history is lost in the transition, please download, save, and print all relevant training certificates currently in Moodle.

Although Moodle will remain accessible for a short period during the transition, it will eventually be phased out. Any training history left in Moodle will be permanently lost. At a minimum, ensure that all staff certificates for the federally required annual Civil Rights and Ethics training courses are saved. Certificates can be accessed through the Moodle account of the person who completed the course. As a reminder, this transition will only affect training under School Nutrition. Contact SCNtrainings@doe.in.gov with any questions.

Important Updates

Indirect Cost Update

The indirect cost de minimis rate (15%) option for non-public sponsors who do not report their financial information to IDOE's Office of School Finance has returned. Public schools may only charge indirect costs to the Nonprofit School Food Service Account with an approved indirect cost rate. The 2026 approved indirect cost rates can be found [here](#).

Non-public sponsors may calculate and charge indirect costs for the 2025-2026 school year (SY) using the 15% de minimis indirect cost rate. Sponsors must submit the indirect cost calculation and proof of transfer in the expense lines of the Annual Financial Report (AFR). The indirect cost calculation is as follows:

$$\text{Indirect Cost} = \text{Total Allowable Direct Expenses} - (\text{Food Cost} + \text{Equipment more than 5K}) \times \text{Indirect Cost Rate}$$

Indirect costs must be charged within 90 days of Tuesday, June 30 for SY 2025-2026. Indirect costs may not be charged retroactively for a previous school year.

Indirect costs are reported on the AFR as follows:

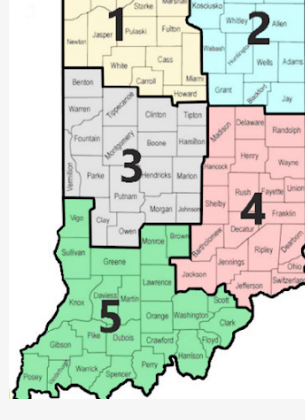
- If indirect costs are calculated and charged on or before Tuesday, June 30, the indirect costs charged should be reported on the 2026 AFR.
- If indirect costs are calculated and charged after Tuesday, June 30, but before Monday, September 28, the indirect costs charged should be reported on the 2027 AFR.

For questions regarding indirect costs, please contact SCNFinance@doe.in.gov, including your sponsor number in the subject line.

Introduction to School Nutrition Leadership (ISNL)

This summer, in connection with the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN), we will be offering one in-person session of ISNL. This session will occur from Monday, July 13, to Wednesday, July 15, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET each day. ISNL is intended for new school nutrition program directors and provides an overview of school nutrition programs, defines the role and responsibilities of a director, and reviews the relationship between local policies and state/federal regulations.

Per ICN guidelines, this session will be capped at 40 participants. Therefore, we ask that only those with three or fewer years of director/program management experience, and who have never attended ISNL, register to attend. The training layout has changed from years past with 24 total hours of live training with additional self-paced online lessons taken on the ICN iLEARN platform. To register for ISNL, complete the form [here](#).



State Assigned Warehouse Information for SY 2026-2027

IDOE has contracted with Gordon Food Service (GFS) for delivery of direct ship/direct delivered (brown box) USDA Foods. GFS will service regions one to four via three different distribution centers. Van Eerden Food Service will service region five in the lower portion of the state. See the regional map on the left. More information is forthcoming regarding this update.

Farm to School

Culinary Skills and Farm to School Training

IDOE and the Indiana Grow for Schools Network will be coordinating a Culinary Skills for Farm to School Training in southern Indiana in September. The training will take place over two days, with each session lasting approximately three hours. While timing can be flexible based on the host site, afternoon sessions are preferred. If you are interested in hosting, please contact f2s@doe.in.gov.

Indiana Food Day Update

Food Day Toolkits will be posted online soon. Posters are finished and will also be shipped to registrants shortly. Register now to start planning a celebration for fall 2026! Learn more and register [here](#).

USDA Foods

PrimerEdge Re-allocation Notifications

IDOE is in the process of catalog balancing and reconciliation. This entails reallocating, and in some cases reducing, USDA Foods cases and/or processor pounds to meet USDA truck requirements. When changes are made, PrimerEdge may send an automated notification to School Food Authorities (SFAs). No additional action is required for these routine notifications. Questions regarding the notifications can be directed to fdp@doe.in.gov.

Direct Delivered/Direct Ship USDA Foods Allocations and Delivery Deadlines

Direct Delivered USDA Foods deliveries to schools end on or before Tuesday, June 30, depending on the delivery period.

Processed Goods/Processed USDA Foods

Bulk pounds remaining at the processor on Tuesday, June 30, will rollover to school year (SY) 2026-2027.

Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program

DoD Funds remaining in the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System (FFAVORS) by Tuesday, June 30, do not rollover over to next school year and will be lost.

All USDA Foods are intended to be used in the year they are allocated.

USDA Foods Cancellations for SY 2026-2027

- 100256 Frozen Strawberry Cups (January-September 2026)
- 100258 Frozen Apple Slices
- 110721 Sweet Potato Fries
- 110921 Frozen Chicken Fillet, Unbreaded

USDA Foods Recipe Ideas

Looking for recipes to use your USDA Foods? Check out these resources:

- [Smart Swaps Recipes](#)
- [Wild Blueberry Recipes](#)
- [Recipes for Healthy Kids](#)
- [Recipes for Schools - Child Nutrition Recipe Box](#)
- [Team Nutrition Recipes](#)

Procurement

Procurement Information

Do you have questions about procurement click [here](#) or contact the [SCN Procurement mailbox](#) for assistance.

Training and Webinar Opportunities

Back to School Training is Full

IDOE's Annual Back to School Training is now FULL! This training will take place on Wednesday, July 8, at Martinsville High School and will be packed with relevant information for staff in all areas of school nutrition, including front-line staff, programming and administration, and finance and budgeting. Staff who have registered but can no longer attend are encouraged to email SCNtrainings@doe.in.gov to be removed from registration. Those interested in attending but who have not registered are encouraged to join the waitlist [here](#). Those on the waitlist will be contacted if spots open.

Reminders

Submit New Directors to the Hiring Form

All new hires for the position of Food Service Director must be submitted through the [New Director Hiring Form](#) to ensure they meet all USDA hiring standards. This includes directors who are new to the position, as well as those transferring from another district. Early submission and approval of these new hires will speed up the program year 2027 renewal application process.

Updates from Our Partners

Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) Mealtime Memos

Each month, ICN releases a Mealtime Memo featuring a focused nutrition or food safety topic. These memos are a great resource for both experienced nutrition professionals and those new to the field, offering timely reminders and easy-to-apply guidance.

The June memo, *Keep It Fresh: Storing Fruits & Veggies Safely*, shares simple, practical tips on cleaning and storing produce to keep it fresh and safe. It highlights when to wash items, where different fruits and vegetables should be stored, and how separating ethylene-producing fruits from ethylene-sensitive vegetables can help prevent spoilage. To view the archive of Mealtime Memos or to register to receive these monthly newsletters, click [here](#).

Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA) Webinar

The 2025-2030 DGA introduces familiar recommendations alongside updated guidance. With each release, nutrition professionals face important questions about how to interpret and apply the guidance in practice. Understanding what's new and what the guidance means helps to deliver relevant, evidence-based recommendations.

Join nutrition experts for an engaging discussion on key updates in the latest DGA, their implications for nutrition practice, and how evolving evidence on whole foods and dietary patterns is shaping recommendations. The webinar will also explore current research on dairy foods across a range of fat levels and offer practical communication strategies. It will close with a dedicated FAQ and live Q&A. To learn more and register, click [here](#). Dietitians are eligible to receive 1.25 CEUs.

Upcoming Dates



Monday, June 29	Final Due Date for April Claim
Tuesday, June 30	CEP Application Closes
Wednesday, July 1	Annual Financial Report Opens
Thursday, July 30	Final Due Date for May Claim



Additional Resources

- [School Nutrition Programs Calendar](#)
- [IDOE's Nutrition Webpage](#)
- [CNPweb](#)