

— OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD —

HNU NEWS OCTOBER



HEALTH AND NUTRITION QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

• • • Visit our website by clicking [here!](#) • • •

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH 2023



National Hispanic Heritage Month is annually celebrated from September 15 to October 15 in the United States to recognize the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States.

Join in on the celebration by trying some of these Central and South American recipes from Team Nutrition. [Click here to see the recipes!](#)



USDA Updates:

Local Wellness Policy Link:

Local School Wellness Policy Implementation Tools and Resources | Food and Nutrition Service:
([usda.gov](https://www.usda.gov))

Helpful USDA Resources:

USDA Team Nutrition's Back to school webpage also contains multiple helpful resources:
(www.fns.usda.gov/tn/back-school)

Institute of Child Nutrition:

Below is ICN's website, which can be used as a potential source for training and other materials.
(theicn.org)



Standardized Recipes

[USDA](#) | [Team Nutrition](#) | [Child Nutrition Recipe Box](#)

Looking for standardized recipes? Try:

STRAWBERRY WAFFLE KEBABS WITH YOGURT



To see the recipe and
CACFP Crediting
information, click here:
[Child Nutrition Recipe Box](#)



Meals Served Program Year 22-23

CACFP - 27,143,671

SFSP - 830,020

NSLP - 639,662



NEW

Team Members



Dominic Buffington

Information System
Coordination Specialist



Tomia Sutton

Program Manager



Chris Scott

Child Care Service
Specialist



Rachel Stokes

Quality Assurance Coordinator



CACFP UPDATES

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federal program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks served to eligible children and adults in child care centers, family day care homes, after-school programs, emergency shelters, and adult care centers.

CACFP operators are required to maintain various types of information to ensure compliance with program regulations. Please see 7 CFR 226.10(d) for more information.

Here are some key areas where documentation is necessary:

MEAL PATTERNS:

CACFP operators must maintain records related to meal patterns, including menus, meal counts, and documentation for participants with or without disabilities.

ATTENDANCE RECORDS:

Accurate attendance records are essential to demonstrate program participation and ensure proper reimbursement.

DOCUMENTATION FROM FAMILIES DECLINING PARTICIPATION:

Operators should keep documentation when families decline participation in CACFP.

ENROLLEMENT DOCUMENTS:

Operators must keep enrollment documents for all participants, which may include applications, income eligibility forms, and other relevant information.

TRANSPORTATION RECORDS:

If transportation services are provided as part of the program, operators should maintain records related to transportation arrangements.

TRAINING RECORDS:

CACFP operators are required to maintain information on training sessions, including dates, locations, topics presented, and participant names.



CACFP UPDATES

RECORDKEEPING

Accurate recordkeeping and proper documentation are extremely important for agencies participating in CACFP because they are the basis for all claims for reimbursement, audits, and administrative reviews: 7 CFR 226.10(d).

Centers must retain all records for a minimum of three years after the end of the program year to which they pertain or until audit and administrative review issues are resolved; however, the best practice for the state of Arkansas is five years. For example, agencies must keep records for Program Year (PY) 2023–24 (October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024) until at least October 1, 2027. These records may then be disposed of only if there are no unresolved audit findings, administrative review issues, or the center’s program is not under investigation.

EMERGENCIES

In the event of an earthquake, flood, or fire, or other disaster type event, evidence of enrollment documentation, eligibility, and meal counts is required. Centers must keep these records even if they are illegible from water, fire, or other type of damage. If the documents are completely lost, centers must have a record of the disaster to document their loss, such as an insurance or police report. If the records are lost or damaged, centers must immediately notify their sponsor, and the sponsor must immediately notify their assigned Applications Coordinator at the State Agency.

COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION UNIT

To: FOOD DISTRIBUTION UNIT

SAME PROGRAM, NEW NAME!

For a few years now, USDA has dropped using the term commodity by using USDA Foods.

With the change to the AR Department of Education, we thought it was time to bring our name into the current century! Therefore, the Commodity Distribution Unit has changed its name to the Food Distribution Unit.

FDU:

MON - FRI
8:00 AM TO
4:30 PM

WHAT'S NEW?



**13 NEW
SCHOOLS
PROCESSING
USDA FOODS**



**110 TOTAL
SCHOOLS
PROCESSING
USDA FOODS**

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

According to the Numbers:

Trucks Ordered & Processed:

	Trucks Ordered	Total Pounds	Total Dollars
Fruits & Vegetables	28	903,226	247,236.48
Dairy	17	419,330	885,993.23
Oils	1	3338.00	2,002.80
Flour	3	135,000	46,296.00
Fish	1	4,157	7,752.81
Poultry	28	977,231	1,344,385.68
Beef & Pork	8	238,052	697,322.71
Totals	86	2,680,334	\$3,230,989.71

NSLP/CACFP:

FDU ordered 172,872 Cases of Food at a current value of \$9,288,244.85.

- Apples
- Apricots
- Blackeye Beans
- Garbanzo Beans
- Green Beans
- Pinto Beans
- Refried Beans
- Vegetarian Beans
- Turkey
- Beef
- Blueberries
- Broccoli
- Carrots
- Cheese
- Chicken
- Corn
- Cranberries
- Flour
- Oil
- Orange Juice
- Peaches
- Pears
- Pepper/Onion Blend
- Pork
- Potatoes
- Raisins
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Strawberries
- Tomatoes
- Tomato Salsa



LFS GRANT FOR NSLP SCHOOLS:

Schools who have requested funds from the LFS Grant have spent \$817,398.26 in purchasing food from socially disadvantaged Arkansas farmers and producers.

Here's what they have purchased so far:

Items:	Quantity:	Items:	Quantity:
Apples	2,169 lbs	Honeydew Melons	6 lbs
Bacon	65 lbs	Lettuce	215 lbs
Beef Brisket	1,280 lbs	Peaches	360 lbs
1/4 Beef Patties	981 lbs	Purple Hull Peas	3,965 lbs
Beef Roast	915 lbs	Radishes	4 lbs
Bell Peppers	9 lbs	Sausage Patty	355 lbs
Blackberries	675 lbs	Spinach	84 lbs
Boston Butt Roast	896 lbs	Tomatoes	23 lbs
Cantaloupe	2,110 lbs	Watermelon	2,100 lbs
Ground Beef 85/15	120,327 lbs	Honey	4 Qt

OUTREACH:



“During the breakfast various awards were given out to Hunger Heroes around the State of Arkansas that are helping fight hunger.”

There were tons of heartwarming stories from the various Hunger Heroes that were shared during the breakfast.”

DEKELTON LESTER



VOLUNTEERING: HUNGER ACTION BREAKFAST

The Outreach team was so honored to volunteer for the Hunger Action Breakfast presented by the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance on September 21st.

To learn more about the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, visit their website:
<https://arhungeralliance.org/>



October Events:

October 10th: Interdepartmental Committee, Wyndham Riverfront, Little Rock

October 11th - 14th: 61st Annual Arkansas Early Childhood Associate Conference, Wyndham Riverfront, North Little Rock

October 26th: Farm-to-School Celebration Event, Forrest Park Elementary School, Little Rock

Have an event you'd like the Outreach Team to attend?

Contact:

Lauren.Dotson@ade.arkansas.gov or
DeKelton.Lester@ade.arkansas.gov

TRAINING DATES:

CACFP

10/17/2023 - In Person at Little Rock
11/14/2023 - Virtual via Zoom
12/12/2023 - In Person at Little Rock

CACFP
At-Risk

11/16/2023 - Virtual via Zoom

**ADH:
Keys to
Compliance**

10/26/2023 - In Person at Little Rock
11/01/2023 - In Person at Little Rock

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