



December 4, 2018 CE Edition

This information is to keep you informed of any changes in policies and procedures and of new communication originating from the State Office this month.

No Attachments with this issue

Registration Open!

Community Nutrition Conference
(formerly known as CACFP and SFSP Conferences)
February 11-13, 2019
Sheraton Georgetown Hotel



The CACFP Conference has a new face! This year we are combining the SFSP conference and the CACFP conference to give you more bang for your travel buck! We are working on a new format, inspired by your feedback.

This year's program will include:

- Group collaboration meetings by type of CE
- Farm Fresh Producer Expo
- Healthier CACFP Recognition award poster session
- SFSP and CACFP tracks
- CE-led sessions
- Suggested sessions by position and experience

Register for the conference [here](#).

For more details about the conference click [here](#).

Reserve your room [here](#). TDA has negotiated a rate of \$103 per night at the Sheraton Georgetown. Quantities are limited so book today!



Eat Local. Teach Local. Be Social.

TDA is introducing the [Farm Fresh Challenge](#) for participants of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), this March! Pledge your participation in the Farm Fresh Challenge by **February 18th** to receive supportive materials such as static clings, buttons and stickers.

The Farm Fresh Challenge is a month-long effort to serve more local foods, teach children and older adults about the importance of Texas agriculture, and share this message with families and community members. All challenge participants will receive a digital badge and TDA recognition for their efforts. CACFP CEs interested in participating in this exciting challenge can register at Squaremeals.org/FarmFreshChallengeCACFP.

Stay Connected — Subscribe to TDA's Farm Fresh E-Harvest

This newsletter provides a monthly update on farm to child/adult care and includes resources such as funding opportunities, a schedule of upcoming trainings and webinars, and more. Archive issues of the E-Harvest are available [here](#). [Subscribe today!](#)

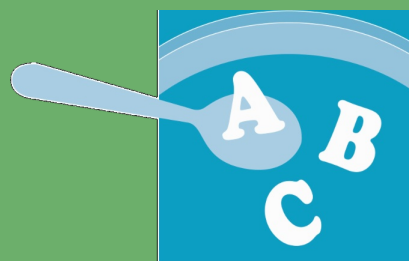
Connect with your partners at TDA today at FarmFresh@TexasAgriculture.gov

New for Child Care from USDA Team Nutrition Resources

These new Team Nutrition resources for Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) operators help child care sites communicate with new and expectant moms about breastfeeding:

- a Mother's Guide
- poster
- message graphic

All materials are currently available in English online at the [USDA website](#). Team Nutrition will announce the availability of Spanish and printed versions at a later date. These materials support the implementation of the Child and Adult Care Food Program: Meal Pattern Revisions Related to the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 Final Rule (Final Rule), which allows for reimbursement of meals when the mother provides breastmilk or directly breastfeeds her infant at the child care center or home. These materials also encourage mothers to talk with their child care provider about their breastfeeding plans and the space available for breastfeeding at the child care site.



CACFP Handbook Revisions

Section 3000, Program Agreement, Section 5000, Visits, Reviews and Audits, and Section 6000, Civil Rights of the CACFP Handbooks have been revised to:

3000:

- Update guidance based on CACFP Memo 12-2018, Child Nutrition Program Waivers Request Guidance and Protocol - Revised

5000:

- Add a new item - 90-day Technical Assistance Visit
- Increase the length of time to provide additional/requested documentation during an administrative review from 2 hours prior to the exit conference to "until" the exit conference
- Add clarifying information related to preliminary review findings

6000:

- Add a new item - Limited English Proficiency,



- which incorporates existing information from FNS Instruction 113-1, Civil Rights Compliance and Enforcement – Nutrition Programs and Activities
- Add examples of possible sources to use for data collection
 - Add information for Sponsors related to review requirements
 - Provide address for USDA Civil Rights Director
 - Modify to align with language in FNS Instruction 113-1, Civil Rights Compliance and Enforcement – Nutrition Programs and Activities

Affected areas are highlighted in the handbooks and detailed in the handbook Revisions section.

Reference the revision numbered ADC 19-02, CCC 19-02, At-risk 19-02 or DCH 19-02 for specific information.



CACFP Meal Pattern Fruit Component

The fruit component is a separate component at lunch, supper and snack; and combined with vegetables at breakfast. In the CACFP meal patterns, fruit juice (or vegetable juice) may only be used to meet the fruit requirement at one meal or snack per day. The US Dietary Guidelines' recommends that at least half of the fruits consumed per day should come from whole fruits (fresh, canned, frozen, or dried).

Pears are an excellent choice to include on your CACFP meal or snack menus. Pear orchards can be traced back thousands of years to wild pear trees in Western Asia and Southern Europe. Today, more than 80 percent of the annual US pear harvest are from orchards in the states of Washington and

Oregon.

Compared to other tree fruits, pears are unique in that they ripen best off of the tree. Pears in the market will be firm; when ripe, pears are juicy and sweet. To ripen a pear, place it in a paper bag and leave it on the counter. Check it daily for ripeness. Pears are ripe when the neck, the flesh that surrounds the stem area, gives to slight pressure. Not all pears will change color when ripe. Green Bartlett pears go from a green to yellow color, whereas red Bartletts do not change color. Both green and red Anjou pears stay the same color when they ripen. Bartlett pears are the major variety in canned products. Enjoy pears fresh, canned, baked, broiled, or poached. Additionally, they make an excellent snack, ingredient in a salad, or side dish for meals.

Celebrate National Pear Month in December with a variety of pear dishes. For a tasty and nutritious pear dish, try this Pear Party Salsa listed on the [What's Cooking? USDA Mixing Bowl](#)



Pear Party Salsa

Servings
4 – ½ cups

Ingredients:

- 1 pear, cored and finely chopped
- 1 apple, cored and finely chopped
- 2 kiwifruit, cored and finely chopped
- 1 orange, peeled and finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- Cinnamon graham crackers (optional)

Directions:

1. Combine pear, apple, kiwi, and orange in a medium-size bowl.
2. Pour honey and lemon juice over fruit and gently toss.
3. Scoop up bites of fruit salsa using bites of cinnamon graham crackers (optional).

Informal Procurement Methods

Micro-Purchase (Purchases between \$0 - \$10,000)

Effective January 1, 2019, the micro-purchase threshold is increased from \$3,500 to \$10,000. Therefore, for procurements of supplies or services equal to or less than \$10,000, CEs may follow the micro-purchase procurement method, unless the CE has a more restrictive micro-purchase policy in place. The increased micro-purchase threshold is only applicable to those procurements conducted on or after January 1, 2019. CEs must continue to follow the existing small purchase threshold (\$50,000) as described in Section 7000, Financial Management, of the CACFP Handbooks.



Micro-purchases may be awarded without soliciting competitive quotations if the price is considered to be reasonable and must be equitably distributed among qualified suppliers. For example, a CE must not make all purchases from one source rather; the CE must make purchases from all qualified sources equally. Routine purchases must not be broken into smaller purchase amounts in order to qualify for micro-purchasing. If the CE is routinely using the micro-purchase method for the same items, the CE must maintain documentation that demonstrates why this is the most suitable method for purchasing these products and/or services and why the use of another procurement method is not possible or reasonable.

Small Purchase (Purchases between \$10,000 - \$50,000)

As noted above, the small purchase threshold is not changing and will continue to apply to the procurement of supplies or services between \$10,000.01 and \$50,000. Small purchase procedures require CEs to obtain at least three price quotations from an adequate number of qualified sources. Price quotations must be documented; the CE must document the date, vendors consulted, and quotes received (including for verbal quotes). USDA also allows for store advertisements to be used as documentation when receiving quotes.

For more information on informal procurement methods, please refer to Section 7000, Financial Management, of the CACFP Handbook.

[Previous Issue](#)



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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