

Dear Authorized Representative and Food Service Director:

This notice is sent to the Authorized Representative and the Food Service Director in separate emails. If you desire additional staff members to receive the monthly emails please send me their contact information and I will add them to the distribution list. The Bureau Notes, USDA memorandums, and related forms or documents listed in this email will be posted on the Bureau's web page under [Monthly Memos and Updates](#). Please contact me at [patti.harding@iowa.gov](mailto:patti.harding@iowa.gov) if you have additional questions or desire assistance.

#### **Buy American Provision in the NSLP: SP24-2016**

This USDA memo provides guidance on the Buy American Provision which requires school food authorities (SFAs) to purchase, to maximum extent practicable, domestic commodity or product. It is important for all authorized representatives, food service directors, and business managers and purchasing agents be familiar with this provision.

#### **Food and Drug Administration Requirements for Vending Machines: SP28-2016**

Do you have vending machines in any of your school buildings? USDA provides information on a recent Food and Drug Administration final rule, Food Labeling: Calories Labeling of Articles of Food in Vending Machines. This rule pertains to covered vending machine operators who own or operate 20 or more vending machines.

#### **FY16 Equipment Grants**

There is another opportunity for USDA equipment grants this spring. Watch information.

#### **Summer Short Course 2016 - School Meal Program Training Opportunities**

Iowa Department of Education's Bureau of Nutrition and in partnership with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach are pleased to provide these continuing education workshops:

- June 16, 2016: **Manager Update** Brown Deer Golf Club Facility Coralville, IA (following SNAI)
- June 21, 2016: **ServSafe** Scheman Building Ames, IA
- June 21, 2016: **Financial Management** Scheman Building Ames, IA
- June 22, 2016: **HACCP 101** Scheman Building Ames, IA
- June 23, 2016: **Smarter Lunchrooms** Scheman Building Ames, IA
- July 19 – 21, 2016: **New Manager Orientation** Scheman Building Ames, IA
- July 20 – 21, 2016: **Healthy Meals Workshop\*** Scheman Building Ames, IA

*\*Healthy Meals option for those who have previously attended New Manager's Orientation.*

Click [HERE](#) for Summer Short Course 2016 program descriptions and registration.

For more information, contact Jean Easley at [jean.easley@iowa.gov](mailto:jean.easley@iowa.gov) or 515 725 2627.

#### **The March "What's New in School Nutrition Webinar?" will be Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 2:00- 3:00 PM.**

The featured topic is Menu Planning Resources. It is recommended that you are familiar with the information in two previously recorded webinars: [Meal Pattern 101](#) and [Rise and Shine, It's Breakfast Time](#). Reviewing those two webinars and participating in this one will result in 3 hours of useful training for individuals with menu-planning responsibilities. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and provide input on topics for future webinars. Click [here](#) to register for the webinar on the Department of Education calendar. If you have any questions, please contact Jan Steffen at [jan.steffen@iowa.gov](mailto:jan.steffen@iowa.gov).

### **RDN Wellness Coach Opportunity**

Is your school district working to provide a healthy school environment and meet the Smart Snacks in School and Local Wellness Policy regulations, as set by USDA? Iowa Team Nutrition is offering Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) Wellness Coach assistance to 30 school districts who need assistance with meeting the Local Wellness Policy and Smart Snacks section of the USDA Administrative Review. The RDN Coach will provide 3 visits per district during fall, 2016 to facilitate the implementation of an action plan to meet Local Wellness Policy and Smart Snacks regulations. Please see the attached **RDN Wellness Coach Opportunity** application. The due date is **March 31<sup>st</sup>**, or contact Patti Delger, at [patti.delger@iowa.gov](mailto:patti.delger@iowa.gov) for more information.

### **SFSP Sub-Grants – Kids in the Kitchen Webinar**

Are you looking for new, creative, and fun summer enrichment to offer during SFSP this year? Mark your calendars! Team Nutrition will be presenting a *Kids in the Kitchen* Webinar to SFSP on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. During the summer 2015 ISU Extension and Outreach implemented *Kids in the Kitchen* hands-on cooking nutrition education curriculum at 5 SFSP feeding sites. Iowa Team Nutrition will expand this program to additional SFSP sites and is offering \$500 sub-grants to support implementation. The *Kids in the Kitchen* lessons encourage young people to eat healthier meals and snacks as a result of hands-on cooking experiences, including whole grain wraps, garbanzo bean dip with veggies, individual fruit pizzas, and yogurt with fruit parfait.

The webinar will explain how to teach the *Kids in the Kitchen* lessons and lead the hands-on cooking activities during SFSP. All SFSP participating in the webinar will be eligible to apply for the \$500 sub-grant. The funds can be used to purchase food, paper products, cooking utensils, educational materials, and staff time. Click [here](#) to register for the **Kids in the Kitchen Webinar**, or contact Patti Delger, at [patti.delger@iowa.gov](mailto:patti.delger@iowa.gov) for more information.

### **Summer Food Service Program**

An estimated 180,000 low-income Iowa children do not have access to summer meal programs. The USDA Summer Food Service Program is designed to provide nutritious breakfast, lunch, and supper meals or snacks to children during the summer. Is your school planning to offer a summer school, summer reading, or summer enrichment program? Providing meals and snacks alongside a summer enrichment program can enhance the overall services being provided to children during the program.

However, whether your school is planning to offer a summer enrichment program or not, as trusted community organizations, schools are well positioned to counter this summer hunger gap. There are many opportunities to provide summer meals, even when no summer school programming is planned. Consider getting involved. Please see the attached informational sheet on the Summer Food Service Program. For more information contact Stephanie Dross at [stephanie.dross@iowa.gov](mailto:stephanie.dross@iowa.gov) or 515-281-4760.

### **Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program**

The Iowa Department of Education will soon be accepting applications from elementary schools for the Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program (FFVP) for school year 2016-17. This is a grant opportunity for schools to provide children with free fresh fruits and vegetables during the school day. The goal is to create healthier school environments by expanding the variety of fruits and vegetables consumed, and by making a difference in children's diets to impact their present and future health.

Elementary schools having 50 percent or more of their enrolled students eligible for free or reduced-price meals are selected for the program based on an annual application. Priority must be given to schools with the highest free and reduced-price populations.

Applications will be moved this year to an online format in the IowaCNP. A notice will appear on the front page of the IowaCNP by the 1<sup>st</sup> of April notifying schools that FFVP applications are now being accepted. Check out the [FFVP website](#) for more information or contact the Department's Stephanie Dross at [stephanie.dross@iowa.gov](mailto:stephanie.dross@iowa.gov) or 515-281-4760.

### **2015 USDA Farm to School Census**

Final results from the 2015 USDA Farm to School Census are now available online at:

<https://farmtoschoolcensus.fns.usda.gov>.

The website includes:

- [National overview statistics](#).
- [State by state summaries](#) including the dollars invested locally in each state and shout outs to select high performing school districts.
- Full details of every school district that responded to the Census.
- Interactive social media links so you can share results with your networks; look for and click on the white circle in the lower right hand corner of select pages.
- Grab and go graphs and charts; just right click on any graph or chart to save to your own desktop.
- A [photo gallery](#) showcasing the great work of USDA Farm to School grantees.
- **A CONTEST! Now through April 15th you can nominate a school district to receive USDA's coveted "One in a Melon" award.**