

Bureau Notes - 4/15/16

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.

**School Meal Program Equipment Grant opportunity – Applications due May 25, 2016.**

Equipment grants are available for schools to purchase equipment to serve healthier meals that meet the updated meal patterns, with emphasis on serving more fruits and vegetables, including items purchased locally, improving food safety, and expanding access. As in previous grant opportunities, the funds will be awarded via a competitive application process, giving priority to high need schools where 50 percent or more of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Also, priority will be given to schools that did not receive a previous NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant award.

The Equipment Grant Application and the memo are in a format that is compatible with assistive technology, such as screen readers. This format allows for information to be entered directly into the application.

Information on the process and the application are located on the Bureau of Nutrition and Health Services web page under Monthly Memos and Updates-Schools, 2016, and posting 2016/04/15. To get started, click on the blue link [HERE](#). Applications must be postmarked on or before May 25, 2016. Contact Patti Harding at [patti.harding@iowa.gov](mailto:patti.harding@iowa.gov) if you have questions.