

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATIONAL SCHOOL

3E'S OF HEALTHY LIVING *Lunch Program*
EDUCATION, EXERCISE AND EATING RIGHT

August 2, 2021

Embedded attachments with this issue

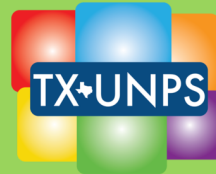
Refer to the COVID Page for Updates

Your Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) newsletter has returned, but [SquareMeals.org/CVNSLP](https://www.squaremeals.org/CVNSLP) will still be your source for all COVID-19-related regulatory information. The most current information regarding program operations that has been modified due to COVID-19 will continue to be found on our Coronavirus page to ensure that TDA shares updates from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in a way that is timely and consistent.

TX-UNPS Updates

Seamless Summer Option Program Year 2022 (SSO PY22)

The School Nutrition Program (SNP) site applications must be submitted and approved as a prerequisite for SSO application processing. SSO sites submitted for approval will be returned for correction if there are no SNP site applications in submitted and/or approved status.



Policy Updates

Federal Register Posting

[Attached](#) is the Federal Register posting with the value of donated foods for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This notice includes the cash-in-lieu (CIL) for CACFP.



SSO and Attachment B

CEs that are operating the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) during School Year 2021-2022 and not distributing household applications are not required to complete the Attachment B Upload, including the upload of Direct Certification (DC) notification letters. However, CEs operating SSO in SY 2021-2022 are required to continue to check the DC list monthly.

Texas Farm Fresh Initiative

Register Today for the October Farm Fresh Challenge

TDA has the resources you need to bring the fun and excitement of local foods to your students during the October Farm Fresh Challenge. The challenge is open to any Texas school operating the National School Lunch Program, Seamless Summer Option or Summer Food Service Program for the 2021-2022 school year. Schools earn TDA recognition by meeting the challenge parameters — Eat Local, Teach Local, and Be Social. Please visit [Squaremeals.org/FarmFreshChallenge](https://www.squaremeals.org/FarmFreshChallenge) to pledge participation in the October Farm Fresh Challenge!



Resources and Opportunities



Look for improvements to the F&N Newsletters!

Beginning in September, the CACFP Insight, NSLP Newsletter, and Summer In the Loop will transition to a monthly distribution schedule.

The newsletters will feature critical information for all program operators as well as highlight best practices to help operators stay in compliance with federal regulations, promote participation, and serve nutrition meals.

TDA will be sending newsletters to the email address listed in the CE level application in TX-UNPS, so please ensure your information is up-to-date!

In case you miss a newsletter or would like other staff members to read it, they will be available for 3 months after the initial send date on SquareMeals.org under each Program name.

USDA Foods Updates

SY 2020-2021 End of Year

CEs can pull up and save a copy of the Weekly Commodity Bulletin for SY 2020-2021. Entitlement balances across all methods have been reconciled for Further Processing, the DoD Fresh Program, Farm to School Program, and Regular USDA Foods.

Farm to School Program

It's not too late to participate! CEs can "OPT IN" to participate to receive fresh, local, Texas pears, apples, oranges, and grapefruits.

If not already participating and to "OPT IN", please withdraw the Contract Packet to update the Contracting Entity Information Update screen in the TX-UNPS, Food Distribution Program Module. Send an email to CommodityOperations@TexasAgriculture.gov and a USDA Foods Specialist will manually add the survey to the survey screen. As a reminder, Delivery Period Options coincide with the route schedule established with your TDA Contracted Warehouse so that the fruit is delivered to maintain peak freshness!

** A USDA Foods Team member is always available to assist, should you need to increase or decrease Farm to School cases to meet menu and school participation needs.

First Allocation for Pears will be Tuesday, August 31, 2021.

DoD Fresh Program

SY 2021-2022 funds are loaded in the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System (FFAVORS) for all participating CEs. The Dept. of Defense, dedicated Produce Representatives will be emailing out their traditional "Welcome Email" with helpful information related to the program. The email will also provide the delivery day determined by the produce vendor. For questions related specifically for deliveries, please contact the respective DLA Troup Support Representative, sylvia.muniz@dla.mil, hermila.duran@dla.mil, and (for El Paso Only) yolanda.o.moore@dla.mil.

USDA Foods Reminders

The first allocations of USDA Foods sent to the state contracted warehouses will occur during the week of July 26th. CEs should check their weekly commodity bulletin to see if they have product in private storage. If there are items in private storage, they should be placed on an order for the next available delivery date(s). If a school is unable to use any of their items in private storage, they should contact TDA at commodityoperations@texasagriculture.gov. Many of the warehouses have surplus inventory that is available on a first come first serve basis. To check if your warehouse has surplus inventory, you can open a delivery order and look for items listed in the surplus column.

Delivery Fee and Private storage reimbursements for SY 20-21 should be sent out to all CEs by the end of August 2021.

Of Note

- USDA Foods processing pounds in the State accounts will be allocated to Round 2 ordering with possible revisions to Round 1 ordering. The allocations from both rounds will be finalized and posted to SquareMeals by close of business on August 6, 2021.
- The DoD FFV usage reconciliations for PY2021 have been applied to TX-UNPS.
- The Ordering Team is working to apply the final weighted average cost adjustments of Farm to School and further processed USDA Foods for PY2021 in TX-UNPS by July 29th, 2021.



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