



SNA's Credentialing Program



Professional Standards

Aligned with USDA Professional Standards

Why become a School Nutrition Specialist (SNS)?

The SNS Credential is a mark of excellence and achievement that reflects what it takes to run a successful school nutrition program in today's challenging climate.

The SNS Credentialing Exam evaluates candidates' knowledge and skills required to perform specific job activities related to managing or directing school nutrition programs. The SNS Exam is based on four key areas that are the basis for USDA Professional Standards and SNA's professional development programming.

- Benefits:**
- Provides formal recognition of professional achievement in the four key areas of USDA Professional Standards
 - Increases knowledge and skills to manage a complex foodservice program
 - Enhances career opportunity
 - Improves credibility with peers, school district administrators and the general public

How do I get SNS Credentialed?

1. Meet the academic, key area, and work experience requirements to apply to take the SNS Credentialing Exam (see back for details)
2. Choose a date to take the SNS Credentialing Exam from the list of available exam dates and locations
3. Submit completed application and college transcripts / diploma to SNA
4. Pass the SNS Credentialing Exam

"[The SNS Credential] shows to my colleagues my commitment to continuing education in my field, so that I can be that trusted expert to turn to."

—Jeremy West, CDM, SNS, Nutrition Services Director, Greeley-Evans School District 6, Greeley, CO



Learn more and apply today at www.schoolnutrition.org/SNS



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The Requirements:

Before you can sit for the SNS Credentialing Exam, you must meet the academic, key area, and work experience requirements listed below:



Academic Requirement	Key Area Requirement	Work Experience Requirement
60 College Credits OR Associate's Degree OR Bachelor's Degree or Higher*	30 College Credits in any of the 4 Key Areas: Nutrition, Operations, Administration, Communications/ Marketing OR 3 Years of Work Experience in coordinating, managing, or supervising various aspects of child nutrition OR Some Combination of College and Work Experience (1 year of work equals 10 college credits)	1 Year of Work Experience related to school nutrition within the past 5 Years in any of the following settings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • school nutrition program • community nutrition program • college program • university program • technical program • culinary program • state/community agency • trainer • consultant • industry staff • and/or SNA state/national association staff

*The key area requirement is waived for individuals with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher.

How to Apply:

To apply to take the SNS Credentialing Exam, you must complete and submit an application form, along with your college transcript, and the application fee.

Visit www.schoolnutrition.org/sns to view the current listing of SNS Credentialing Exams scheduled throughout the country and for exam fees.

"It should be a goal of every Foodservice Director, regardless of the size of their district, to attain this credential."
 —Timothy W. Goossens, SNS, Director of Food Service, Laconia, NH



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