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POLICY UPDATE



10.19.2016 Purchasing Using Cooperative Agreements, Agents, and Third-Party Services

The USDA provides [this guidance](#) on various procurement groups and how to use each group in a way that complies with Federal procurement standards.

10.19.2016 FFVP: Funding Allocation Distribution

This [memo](#) provides guidance to State agencies on transitioning from the current Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program (FFVP) funding structure to one based on a Federal fiscal year as required beginning school year 2017-18.

10.7.2016 Model Functional Requirements for State and Local IT Systems

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service [announced](#) the release of the first version of the "[Model Functional Requirements for State School Meal Programs Information Systems](#)." Functional requirements describe the function of an information technology (IT) system. State agencies are encouraged to distribute this information and resource to local school food authority program operators.

10.6.2016 Revised Federal State Agreement for CN and Food Distribution Programs

This [memo](#) and [attachment](#) provide information on the release of the revised Federal-State Agreement for Child Nutrition and Food Distribution Programs. The revisions include requirements relating to the administration of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) and the Nutrition Education Training Program. State Agencies must submit a signed and dated copy of this revised form to their respective FNS Regional office.

10.6.2016 Revised: Draft Tool for Local Agency Procurement Reviews

This [revised tool](#) is intended to provide clarity, improve functionality and expand instructions for school food authorities (SFAs) and State agencies. USDA Food and Nutrition Service [expects State agencies to transition](#) to this revised Tool for reviews commencing on or after November 1, 2016. State agency use of the procurement review materials will be evaluated during management evaluations. Training will be conducted during the State agency/USDA meeting October 21- November 2, 2016 in Crystal City, VA.

10.6.2016 Updated Fiscal Year Reporting Timeline and Reporting Table

This [memo](#) announces updates to the Fiscal Year "[Reporting Table](#)" and "[Reporting Timeline](#)".

10.4.2016 Modifications to Accommodate Disabilities in School Meal Programs

There have been updates to requirements related to accommodating children with disabilities participating in School Meal Programs. The latest [memo](#) clarifies changes made by the ADA

Amendments Act and reflects the position Food and Nutrition Services will take in compliance reviews and enforcement action.

10.4.2016 Federal Register: Child Nutrition Operations Study Comment Request

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has announced the second round of the Child Nutrition Program Operations Study (CNS-Ops-II) and [solicits your comments](#) on the methods and accuracy of the study. The objective of this study is to collect data on policies, administrative, and operational issues on child nutrition programs. Policy and operational issues include, but are not limited to, the preparation of the program budget, development and implementation of regulations, and identification of areas for technical assistance. [View USDA's announcement](#) for more details.

9.30.2016 Guidance on Indirect Costs

This [new guidance](#) provides information to State agencies and SFAs on program rules pertaining to:

- The definitions for both direct and indirect costs and the treatment of certain typical costs;

- An overview of the Federal cost principles and criteria that will aid in determining allowable costs;
- How a school district's general fund recovers indirect costs from the NSFSA;
- Assessing indirect costs including addressing errors and the billing of previous years' indirect costs;
- An overview of how the indirect cost rate is developed as relevant background information for SFAs.

9.30.2016 CEP Planning and Implementation Guidance: Fall 2016 Edition

The [2016 Community Eligibility Planning and Implementation Guidance](#) manual is now available. The manual includes new information and consolidates existing guidance and best practices from the local level. All notable updates have been highlighted in yellow.