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# POLICY UPDATE



## **11.21.2017 Donated Food Storage, Distribution, and Product Dating (Revised)**

USDA posted a revised policy update titled [Donated Food Storage, Distribution, and Product Dating](#), which affects the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), and Charitable Institutions. The memo is intended to provide clarification and guidance on policies and procedures for donated food storage and distribution as they relate to product dating. Besides this guidance, more resources can be found on the [USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service website](#) and on the [USDA Foods Complaint Procedure website](#).

## **12.14.2017 Food Crediting in Child Nutrition Programs: Request for Information**

In a [Federal Register Notice](#) published on December 14, 2017, USDA announced an information collection on food crediting for Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs). CNPs must reflect the meal patterns and nutrition standards set forth by USDA in order to claim federal reimbursement, and crediting is the process designed by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to specify how individual food items contribute to those meal patterns. The [Request for Information](#) is intended to help FNS gather feedback from stakeholders on how the crediting system can be improved, as well as to offer customer service to those operating and benefiting from CNPs. Electronic comments are preferred and may be submitted to the Federal Register by February 12, 2018. More information can be found in [USDA's press release](#).

## **01.08.2018 FNS-640 SY 2016-17 Reporting Guidance**

[USDA issued a policy update](#) providing multiple resources for SY 2016-17 reporting guidance for the FNS-640 report, also known as the Administrative Review Report Form. The Report Form is scheduled to be available in the Food Programs Reporting System (FPRS) in January 2018. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) outlines some reporting flexibilities in their memo on the report. The resources found within the policy update regarding FNS-640 include: a [Reporting Guidance Memo](#); [Instructions Summary of Revisions](#); [FNS-640A Revised Instructions](#); [FNS-640B Revised Instructions](#); [FNS-640A Data Fields with Location](#); and [FNS-640B Data Fields with Location](#). Technical assistance and training to support State Agencies' implementation of the revised form is being offered, and state agencies with questions should contact their FNS Regional office.

## **01.19.2018 Providing Child Nutrition Program Benefits to Disaster Survivor Evacuees**

The USDA has released a memo, "[Providing Child Nutrition Program Benefits to Disaster Survivor Evacuees](#)," which summarizes the options available to school food authorities and institutions participating in child nutrition programs for disaster evacuees. The memo details eligibility determinations and duration of eligibility in the wake of disasters, as well as additional resources. These options and informational resources are intended to help program operators provide needed meals to survivor evacuees in the timeframe within the parameters of statutory requirements

*Questions or comments?*

*Send them to SNA's Government Affairs Coordinator, Lawren Geer, at [lgeer@schoolnutrition.org](mailto:lgeer@schoolnutrition.org)*

## **01.29. 2018 Summer Food Service Program 2018 Reimbursement Rates**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) released a [notice announcing the annual adjustments](#) to the reimbursement rates for meals served in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). These adjustments are based on changes in the Consumer Price Index and are required by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. The memo presents the rates in three tables: operations rates, administrative rates and the combined rates of the two, and, additionally, breaks the tables down into breakfast, lunch/supper and snack. The rates and accompanying information on calculations can be found in the [Federal Register notice](#).

*Questions or comments?*

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