

RESOURCE LIST

for School Nutrition Programs

Below are some resources and websites related to the operation of the U.S Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs.

Buy American

Buy American Fact sheet

https://fna-bwbufwdzbabpezgc.z01.azurefd.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/FactSheet_BuyAmerican.pdf

Buy American Accommodations Quick Guide

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/sites/maine.gov.doe/files/inline-files/Child%20Nutrition%20-%20Buy%20American%20Quick%20Guide%20%26%20FAQ%20-%201.23.2026.pdf>

Counting & Claiming

Point of Service Guidance <https://www.maine.gov/doe/sites/maine.gov.doe/files/inline-files/Child%20Nutrition%20-%20NSLP%20Alternative%20Points%20of%20Service%20Guidance%20-%209.30.2025.pdf>

Edit Check Form – Under the 'Meal Counting' header <https://www.maine.gov/doe/node/558>

On-site Monitoring Forms – Under the 'On-site Monitoring Forms header - <https://www.maine.gov/doe/node/558>

Free and Reduced Eligibility

Eligibility Manual for School Meals <https://www.fna.usda.gov/cn/eligibility-manual-school-meals>

Free & Reduced Meal Applications, Household Letters and Resources

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition/studenteligibility>

Eligibility Quick Reference Guide: (under Resources)

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition/studenteligibility>

Eligibility Using Direct Certification & Sun Bucks Approval

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/sites/maine.gov.doe/files/inline-files/Child%20Nutrition%20-%20SUN%20Bucks%20Addition%20to%20the%20Direct%20Certification%20List%20-%206.11.2026.pdf>

Training: Determining Student Eligibility

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition/training> (Under the National School Lunch Program Heading)

Training: Verification – live training will be announced in the Thursday Update

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Direct certification list: <https://neo.maine.gov/DOE/NEO/Accounts/Account/Login?returnUrl=>
 You may need to contact the NEO help desk medms.helpdesk@maine.gov for access.

Food Safety

State of Maine Food Code

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/sites/maine.gov.dhhs.mecdc/files/rules/Food%20Code%20October%202013%20PDF.pdf>

State of Maine Health Inspections & Licensing <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/programs-services/inspections-licensing>

Certified Food Protection Manager Courses

https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/sites/maine.gov.dhhs.mecdc/files/CFPM%20Exams-Instructors_0.pdf

Meal Pattern

Menu Planner for School Meals <https://www.fna.usda.gov/tn/menu-planner-school-meals>

NSLP Meal Pattern Chart <https://www.fna.usda.gov/school-meals/nutrition-standards/nslp-meal-pattern>

School Breakfast Program Meal Pattern Chart <https://www.fna.usda.gov/school-meals/nutrition-standards/sbp-meal-pattern>

NSLP Afterschool Snack Service Meal Pattern Chart

https://foodbuyingguide.fns.usda.gov/Content/TablesFBG/Chart2_FBG_Afterschool_Snacks_Program.pdf

Crediting in Child Nutrition Programs <https://www.fna.usda.gov/tn/cn/crediting-tipsheets>

Food Buying Guide <https://www.fna.usda.gov/tn/fbg>

USDA Foods Fact Sheets <https://www.fna.usda.gov/usda-fis/product-information-sheets>

Whole Grain Resource <https://www.fna.usda.gov/tn/whole-grain-resource>

Grain-Based Desserts <https://www.fna.usda.gov/tn/grain-based-desserts-cacfp>

Serving School Meals to Preschoolers <https://www.fna.usda.gov/tn/serving-school-meals-preschoolers>

Offer Versus Serve <https://www.fna.usda.gov/cn/updated-offer-vs-serve-guidance-nslp-and-sbp-beginning-sy2015-16>

Offer Versus Serve Tip Sheets: <https://fna-bwbufwdzbabpezgc.z01.azurefd.us/sites/default/files/resource->

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[files/OVS%20Lunch%20tip%20sheet.pdf](https://www.maine.gov/doe/sites/maine.gov.doe/files/inline-files/Child%20Nutrition%20-%20Special%20Dietary%20Needs%20in%20SNP%20-%2005.7.2026.pdf)

Procurement

Procurement resources – under the ‘Procurement & Buy American’ header

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition/financial>

Professional Standards (annual training requirements)

Hiring Standards & annual Training hours

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition/laws/professionalstandards>

Maine Professional Standards Tracking Tool

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition/laws/professionalstandards>

USDA Professional Standards Resources

<https://www.fna.usda.gov/tn/professional-standards/rsources>

Training Resources – Institute for Child Nutrition (ICN) <https://theicn.org/>

Smart Snacks – Guidelines for the sale of food to students

Smart Snacks Product Calculator <https://foodplanner.healthiergeneration.org/calculator/>

A Guide to Smart Snacks in School <https://www.fna.usda.gov/tn/guide-smart-snacks-school>

Special Dietary Needs

Special Dietary Needs in School Nutrition Programs Quick Guide

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/sites/maine.gov.doe/files/inline-files/Child%20Nutrition%20-%20Special%20Dietary%20Needs%20in%20SNP%20-%2005.7.2026.pdf>

Medical Statement & Special Diet Parent Letter – Under the ‘Special Dietary Needs’ header

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/node/558>

Fluid Milk Substitutes in School Nutrition Programs Quick Guide

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/sites/maine.gov.doe/files/inline-files/Child%20Nutrition%20-%20Milk%20Substitutions%20in%20SNP%20-%2005.7.2026.pdf>

USDA Foods

Instructions for placing the Annual Order, Monthly Order and ordering “Extras”

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/node/561>

Questions?

Email child.nutrition@maine.gov or call (207) 624-6842

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/schools/nutrition/contact>