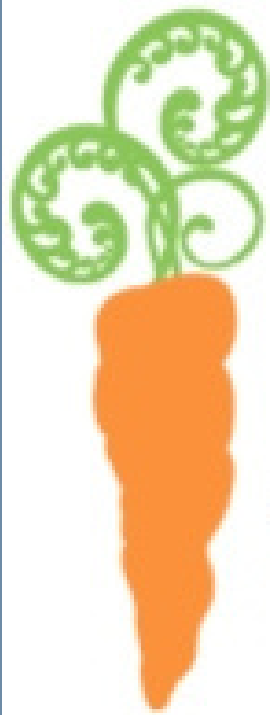


Maine Department of Education

Issue #8

January 2024

# CACFP MONTHLY UPDATE



**Maine**

# CACFP

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Healthy habits that last a lifetime!

**STATE OF MAINE  
CACFP STAFF**

Alissa Mank [alissa.m.mank@maine.gov](mailto:alissa.m.mank@maine.gov) (207) 624-6879

April Taylor [april.taylor@maine.gov](mailto:april.taylor@maine.gov) (207) 215-9034

Troy Fullmer [troy.fullmer@maine.gov](mailto:troy.fullmer@maine.gov) (207) 816-2312

# !!CACFP Office Reminders!!

Civil Rights statement **MUST** be included on all programs' websites and any social media.

"Cheese Product" and "Imitation Cheese" are **not creditable** in the CACFP meal pattern.

The following link is for a handout that provides information on creditable and non-creditable cheeses and amounts of creditable cheese that must be served to credit towards the meat/meat alternate component of the CACFP meal pattern:

[CACFP Creditable and Non-Creditable Cheese](#)

[. \(horizonsfoodprogram.org\)](http://horizonsfoodprogram.org)



# Upcoming Trainings & Events

We received great feedback regarding our summer CACFP Open Office Hours, so we plan to continue our CACFP Open Office Hours throughout the year!

We're offering optional, virtual open office hours on the third Friday of the month 9 a.m. -10 a.m. from September through May. We'll offer more open office hours during the months of June – August, our annual agreement renewal time.

Our virtual CACFP Open Office Hours are a great time to “stop in” with any CACFP-related questions you may have. There are no planned discussion topics, it's just a chance for you to ask questions in a more relaxed, informal setting.

## *Virtual Open Office Hour Dates*

- February 16th: 9 a.m.- 10 a.m.
- March 15th: 9 a.m.- 10 a.m.
- April 19th: 9 a.m.- 10 a.m.
- May 17th: 9 a.m.- 10 a.m.

Click [this link](#) to join!

# National CACFP Week is March 10-16, 2024



**CACFP Week is a national education and information campaign sponsored annually the third week of March by the National CACFP Sponsors Association.**

**The campaign is designed to raise awareness of how the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program works to combat hunger. The CACFP brings healthy foods to tables across the country for children in child care centers, homes, and afterschool programs as well as adults in day care.**

**You can participate by helping spread the word about the CACFP!**

**Visit our [Campaign page](#) to download resources for spreading awareness in your classrooms, your community, and at the state level. We also invite you to be active on social media - participate in our [Social Media Challenge](#) for a chance to win \$100 and have your #CACFPCreditable snacks featured on our website or tell us how you're participating in CACFP Week by submitting your story to [CACFP Week in Action](#).**

The National CACFP Sponsors Association is hosting a webinar for each weekday of CACFP Week centered around the topics of Community, Awareness, Children, Food Program and Participation.

Click on the photo link to register for the webinar.

## Don't Miss Our Webinars

**FREE WEBINAR**



Food Program Fun: **CACFP** Week At-a-Glance

Thursday, February 8  
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm Eastern



## Food Program Fun: CACFP Week At-a-Glance

Thursday, February 8, 2024 | 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM Eastern

Get excited for CACFP Week with us! Join us in February as we'll help you prepare for this week-long campaign. Discover how you can celebrate and raise awareness for the CACFP within your network! [Register for the webinar here.](#)

**FREE WEBINAR**

**Advocacy**

**Good News! Sharing Your CACFP Story**

Monday, March 11 | 2:00 pm - 2:30 pm Eastern



[www.CACFPWeek.org](http://www.CACFPWeek.org)



## Good News! Sharing Your CACFP Story

Monday, March 11, 2024 | 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM Eastern

Together we can raise awareness of the CACFP works to combat hunger. Hear stories about what the CACFP community is doing to share its message and learn how to use social media strategies, local and state proclamations, local news stories and more to help raise awareness about the CACFP. [Register for the webinar here.](#)

# What is CACFP like for you?



**What makes it easy? What makes it hard?  
We want to hear from you!**

- Research study on the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Complete a 15 minute survey about what it's like to participate in CACFP, and share a copy of a recent one-month menu
- *Option to participate in a second phase of research about parent/caregiver and child food preferences and access, and dietary intake at home and child care!*

You will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a \$100 Amazon gift card!

**Call, text, or email us!**

(617) 383-4697

[enriches\\_meals@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:enriches_meals@hsph.harvard.edu)



**HARVARD**

**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Department of Nutrition

# Como ha sido su experiencia con CACFP?



**Que es lo que lo hace fácil o difícil?  
Queremos escuchar lo que tiene que decir!**

- Estudio de investigación sobre el Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Cuestionario de 15 minute en línea sobre su experiencia participando en CACFP y compartir un menú mensual reciente suyo
- *Opción de participar en la segunda fase del estudio sobre preferencias alimentarias de niños y cuidadores/padres, acceso a alimentos e ingresos alimentarios infantiles en el hogar y en el programa de cuidado infantil!*

Participará en un sorteo para tener la oportunidad de ganar una tarjeta de regalo Amazon de \$100!

**Llame o mande mensaje de texto:**

(617) 383-4697

**Correo electronico:**

[enriches\\_meals@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:enriches_meals@hsph.harvard.edu)



**HARVARD**

**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Department of Nutrition

**Maine is participating in the New England Feeding New England (NEFNE) Local Food Counts Survey Project, and we are inviting all early childhood education centers to take part in this survey by the end of January 2024.**

**The NEFNE project is promoting the value of strong community and regional food and supporting a goal of achieving 30% regional food resiliency by 2030.**

**We are asking all early childhood education centers in Maine to participate in the Local Food Counts Survey to help us determine how much of the food grown, raised, harvested, or produced in New England was sold in this same region in 2022. This information will be used to track trends over time and to help organizations and public sector programs working to expand community and regional food value chains to understand impacts.**

**We are using this online survey to collect data on 2022 purchases of local and regional food products and beverages. We are asking people to submit their data by the end of January 2024.**

***This project is managed by the New England Food System Planners Partnership. All information provided in the survey will remain confidential. No identifying information about your organization will be shared with any entity or individual beyond the core research team. All purchase and sales figures provided will be anonymized and aggregated at the state level.***

**If you have questions about this survey or the project, please feel free to contact Chelsea Marshall [chelsea@mainefoodstrategy.org](mailto:chelsea@mainefoodstrategy.org) for more information.**

# Maine Fish for Maine Children!

**A partnership with the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association.**

Are you interested in receiving **FREE** local fish this year? The Fishermen Feeding Mainers (FFM) Program seeks to provide direct financial relief to fishermen by helping them supply childcare centers, providers, and schools in need with healthy Maine seafood.

If you would like to be notified when fish is available, please fill out the [Maine Fish in Maine Schools form](#).

**Please note: Fish must be picked up in Portland and is usually short notice!**



## Federal Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible State or local Agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

(1) mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

(2) fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email:

[program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.