



Nutrition Update

Child Care Food Program

March 2023

Serving over **4.5 million children and adults** healthy meals and snacks daily.

www.CACFPWeek.org



CACFP Week is March 12-18, 2023



CACFP Week is a national educational and information campaign sponsored annually by the National CACFP Sponsors Association 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, as well as for adults in day care.

For more information, click [here](#).

New this year! There will be a webinar for each weekday of CACFP Week centered around the themes of Community, Advocacy, Children, Food Program and Participate. Click [here](#) to learn more about this free series!



National Nutrition Month

National Nutrition Month is an annual campaign created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During the month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits.

This year's theme is "Fuel for the Future". Eating with sustainability in mind is a tasty way to nourish ourselves during every phase of life and protect the environment. For more information, click [here](#).

What is Farm to ECE?

Farm to ECE stands for farm to early care and education and includes serving more locally produced foods, providing hands-on learning opportunities through school gardens or farm visits, and enhancing curriculum to incorporate food-related education and experiential learning opportunities. These efforts aim to increase access to healthy environments, establish healthy habits and reduce obesity among children, and support sustainable food systems.

Here in Florida, a group of individuals from multiple organizations have worked together to create a newsletter containing valuable information and resources to encourage interest in Farm to ECE. You can learn more about this workgroup's goals and get involved [here](#).



You can learn more about the Farm to ECE movement from the National Farm to School Network (NFSN) [here](#).

Click [here](#) to sign up for the **Florida Farm to ECE** quarterly newsletter.



USDA Team Nutrition Resources for Child Care

Team Nutrition supports the Child Care Food Program by providing training in the form of fact sheets, presentation slides and webinars for child care providers and nutrition education for children and families. Check out our resources [here](#). Child care centers that participate in the federal child nutrition programs can request materials using our [online order form](#).



FL HEROs Recognition Program

FL HEROS ECE recognition is a voluntary program open to Florida early care and education centers licensed by the Dept. of Children and Families. The Florida's HEROS award levels have now increased to \$750, \$900 and \$1,500 in Kaplan Educational credit based on the percentage of benchmarks in each focus area and professional development requirements. You can view the application process [here](#). For more information, please get in touch with FL HEROs directly at info@eces4healthykids.org



Standardized Recipes

Are you constantly looking for new, fun recipes to make for the children you care for, that are also CCFP compliant? Try these easy Banana Squares as part of a snack they will love; or these Baked Egg Rolls for a flavorful entrée that is sure to be a hit!

Take a look at the *Child Nutrition Recipe Box* [here](#) for a multitude of USDA recipes that are kid friendly and include whole grains, legumes and a variety of vegetables. They also include crediting information that will make menu planning easier!



Catering Corner

Here are some changes we are making to simplify the procurement process:

- *Sample Delivery Ticket* – A column for “Arrival Temperature” has been added. The new delivery ticket can be viewed [here](#).
- *Renewal, Informal and Formal Procurement Booklets* – An easy-to-read flow chart outlining the processes will be available soon.

Reminders:

Survey – Watch your email for a catering survey in March. This is your chance to give feedback on all things catering!

Catering Contracts – An email will be going out to the 50 centers who still have not submitted your executed catering contract for 2022-2023. Federal Regulation CFR 226.0 Section 226.21 states: “A copy of the contract between each institution and food service management company shall be submitted to the State agency prior to the beginning of Program operations under the subject contract”, so let’s get these in! Send your contract to: cateringcontractinbox@flhealth.gov