7/20/2012

Thursday Update

Dear Districts,

It was great to see many of you at the School Nutrition Association’s Annual National Conference this week! This was a valuable time to network and to hear the latest information on a number of school nutrition topics.

**Free and Reduced Meal Application Online System Request**

Just a reminder that if anyone would like to begin using online systems for the submission and processing of free and reduced applications, your system must receive approval from the CDE OSN before it is implemented. For more information, please see <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutrfreeandreducedmaterials.htm>.

**HHFKA Requirement to Identify Reimbursable Meals**

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act requires SFAs to identify, near or at the beginning of the serving line, the food items that constitute a reimbursable meal; this is intended to assist students in selecting the meal components (in the appropriate quantities) that comprise the meal. While the final rule does not set specific requirements, the CDE OSN has a gift for you! We have purchased dry erase posters for your schools on which you will be able to identify the items in the daily reimbursable meal. Right now, we just wanted to let you know that this resource is coming; once we have the posters all in, we will provide more information and send these out.

**Food Buying Guide – Updates**

The Food Buying Guide has been updated, as fruits and vegetables are now separated into two distinct subsections. Additionally, the revised vegetable subsection labels each vegetable with its appropriate vegetable subgroup (red/orange, dark green, beans & peas, starchy, or other) to assist SFAs with meeting the New Meal Patterns. The revised vegetables and fruits sections of the *Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs* can be accessed online at <http://www.teamnutrition.usda.gov/resources/foodbuyingguide.html>.

**New Meal Patterns Updated Q&A**

Early this week, the USDA released an updated Q&A on the New Meal Patterns. We have posted this on our website at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutriReauthorization.htm>.

Have a great weekend!

Thank you,

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