9/27/12

Thursday Update

Dear Districts,

**Ready, Set, Count!**

Just a reminder for all of our F&R contacts that Monday is the big day, Verification count day! So, don’t forget to count all approved F&R applications that you have on file as of close of business October 1. Shortly thereafter, be sure to select 3% of your applications to verify, perform confirmation reviews, and notify households that they have been selected for Verification. Determinations must be made and results letters sent to households no later than 15 November.

**Food Safety Inspection Reporting…Coming Soon to a Claim System Near You**

We wanted to give everyone a heads up that reporting on food safety inspections will occur again this year. We will be sending out information the second week of October, and the report will be due 1 November. As in past years, the data needed will be the number of schools that received 0, 1, 2, or 2+ inspections the previous school year. This year, however, the reporting will be conducted through our new claim system. More info to follow in October….

**Gone Fishin’**

An important note for everyone that our office will not be open today, 9/27. Tomorrow, Friday, Consultant Support Stacey Macklin will be the only one in the office holding down the fort. We haven’t exactly gone fishing, but we are away at an important meeting and conference: ACSN (Advisory Council for School Nutrition) on Thursday and the CSNA Fall Conference on Friday and Saturday. We will be checking email/voicemail, but we wanted to let you know that we won’t be as quick to respond as usual. If you have an emergency, please email me, Jennifer, on Thursday and call Stacey at 303-866-6661 on Friday.

**USDA Letter on Calorie Limits**

We received the following in an email from USDA and wanted to pass it along to everyone.

*Dear State Directors:*

*Below is a link to a new resource to assist schools in responding to concerns about the school meal changes- specifically those relating to calories and inadequate food.  As you know, we had a template letter to parents in the “School Day Just Got Healthier” toolkit; however, that letter provided more general information about the changes and was not targeted at that issue.*

*Note that the link below also takes users to the whole set of materials available for parents.*

[*Letter to Parents Template*](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Healthierschoolday/pdf/6_LetterToParentsTemplate.docx)

Thank you,

Jennifer Otey

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