12/13/12

Thursday Update

Dear Districts,

**Open Position**

The OSN has an open senior consultant position, which was vacated recently by Lindsay Hucknall. This position is responsible for Team Nutrition, school wellness policies, and nutrition education, in addition to other responsibilities. For more information, see the posting at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdemgmt/download/1131-NutritionConsultant.pdf>. Please pass this along to anyone who may be interested.

**Verification Reminder**

The Verification Selection Worksheet (and any corrections) is due by the end of the day tomorrow, 12/14, or by the end of the day Saturday (if anyone would like to come in to work on it then )—since the due date is still technically the 15th. Please contact Jennifer Otey (contact info below) with any questions.

**Direct Cert Reminder**

The second required Direct Cert upload must be completed by 21 December or before the district goes on break, whichever comes first. Please contact Jennifer Otey (contact info below) with any questions.

**State Match**

Once each year, the OSN sends out funds to state recognized school districts. These funds are from the state and are in addition to the state and federal reimbursements claimed throughout the year on a monthly basis. The amount per district is based on a percentage of the total meals served statewide in the prior school year. These checks (and a memo with additional information) have been mailed out this week. There is also a general memo posted at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutrimemos.htm>. True, the OSN is required to send out these funds, but we would also like to take credit for sending out gifts to everyone…so, please accept this as our holiday gift to you. Happy Holidays! 

**Validation Reviews**

Calling all certified SFAs! Gear up for the upcoming Validation reviews, coming soon to a randomly selected 25% of all certified SFAs. The OSN is required to conduct these reviews, so we wanted to give everyone a heads-up about the nature of these reviews, including  what we will be looking at and what materials are required to be on hand. For more information, please see the Validation Review section at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutriCertification.htm>. Validation reviews will begin in January, and our office will notify you before we come out to visit your district.

**Sodium Standards**

The new meal patterns allow for a phased-in implementation of the reduced sodium standards (see chart below). By school year 2014-2015, the average sodium levels for lunch over the course of the week must be under 1230, 1360, and 1420 mg for K-5, 6-8, and 9-12, respectively. Right now, the Colorado regulation for lunch is even lower, requiring no more than an average of 1,200 mg over the course of the week for each grade level. The OSN will still be certifying SFAs that are over the 1,200 mg CO limit, but we will be notifying these SFAs, so that they are aware that menu changes need to be made, in order to bring their menus into compliance with the CO standard.

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| **Sodium Reduction: Timeline & Amount for National School Lunch Program** | | | |
| Age/Grade Group | Target 1:  July 1, 2014  SY 2014-2015 (mg) | Target 2:  July 1, 2017  SY 2017-2018 (mg) | Final Target:  July 1, 2022  SY 2022-2023 (mg) |
| K-5 | ≤ 1,230 | ≤ 935 | ≤ 640 |
| 6-8 | ≤ 1,360 | ≤ 1,035 | ≤ 710 |
| 9-12 | ≤ 1,420 | ≤ 1,080 | ≤ 740 |

Thank you,

**Jennifer**

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~Thursday Updates (TU) are brought to you by the CDE Office of School Nutrition (OSN) & are provided to

Main Nutrition Contacts, F&R Contacts, Certification Contacts, Claim System Users, & our additional TU List.~

If today’s TU contains information pertinent to a different staff person in your district, please forward this information to that person. | To access the TU archives, click [here](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/nutriEmails.htm).