

School's Out!



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SUMMER MEALS NEWSLETTER

Upcoming USDA and Partner Events

Summer Meals Matter: Recruiting and Retaining Summer Meal Program Sites:

January 4, 2018

1:00 PM-2:00 PM EST

Food Research and Action Center

Capacity Builder Webinar For Advanced Users:

January 9, 2018

2:00-3:00 pm EST

USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

The Capacity Builder is a powerful tool for State agencies and sponsors to evaluate previous summer's performance as well as identify areas where there are gaps in summer meal access.



What's New:

FNS's Official Texting Number 97779

This upcoming summer, FNS is debuting a new text number. Folks can text "**Summer Meals**" to 97779 to find 2018 Summer sites. This FNS text number is an additional tool that families can use to find Summer sites. State agencies are welcome to promote which ever number that is most convenient for them.

In addition to the texting number, FNS also has a Summer Meals Site Finder website that families can use to locate summer meals site throughout the county. Please note that site information for 2018 will start becoming available in early May.

Free Summer Meals Food Safety Kits!

Online orders must be submitted
by: **January 12, 2018**

The Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) is now accepting online pre-orders for the Summer Meals Food Safety Kits.

This FREE resource is intended for distribution to traditional summer food service program sites, meaning those that operate year round. Complete the **order form** to obtain your kits.

Each State and territory can order up to 300 kits.

Email: safesummermeals@theicn.org with any questions.



Upcoming Deadline: February 15, 2018 Management and Administrative Plan (MAP)

State agencies must submit a SFSP MAP to the appropriate FNS Regional office by February 15, 2018. The MAP is a legislative requirement and an opportunity for you to strategize and develop your plan for Summer 2018.

Make sure to review the guidelines and regulations for what is required to submit to your Regional office. Read more about MAPs **here**. You can also review the **FNS Summer Meals Toolkit** as you prepare your MAP.