



This information is to keep you informed of any changes in policies and procedures and of new communication originating from the State Office this month.

## June 18, 2018 CE Edition

### Attachments with this issue:

[SP 18-2018](#)

## TX-UNPS Updates



### **2018 SSO Age/Grade Waiver Now Available**

The SSO Age/Grade Group Meal Pattern Portion Sizes Waiver is available in TX-UNPS under Download Forms: SNP-104. CEs participating in SSO that are operating open and restricted open sites and have difficulty implementing the age/grade group requirements may apply for a waiver. The waiver, if approved, will allow the CE to serve the portion size consistent with the most commonly served age/grade group at that site. [Click here for more information.](#)

### **2018 Universal Breakfast Program Waiver**

The Universal Breakfast Program Waiver application is now open! The application period runs from **March 15 – June 30, 2018.**

School district campuses and open-enrollment charter schools participating in NSLP, in which 80 percent or more of the students qualify for a free or reduced-price breakfast, must offer a free breakfast to each student or seek a waiver from TDA required by Senate Bill 376. TDA has notified all mandated schools by mail. CEs that are mandated to offer free breakfast to all students and wish to apply for a waiver should use the Universal Breakfast Waiver School Year 2018-2019 form through TXUNPS Download Forms (SNP-103). All waiver requests must be submitted by **June 30, 2018**. Please refer to the [Universal Breakfast page](#) for details and instructions or contact your [Education Service Center](#) for assistance.

## Policy News

**SP 18-2018** - *Child Nutrition Programs' Flexibilities for School Year 2018-19* is attached. TDA will release updated guidance on the flexibility in the next few weeks.

**SP 20-2017** - *Announcement of Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Data Template* - provides new guidance on how TDA will report CEP data to USDA.





## Registration now open for TDA's Farm Fresh Challenge

This October TDA encourages schools to **Eat Local. Teach Local. Be Social** and will recognize participants that take the challenge. The **Farm Fresh Challenge** (previously the **Local Products Challenge**) is back for its **5th year**. See what's new and pledge your participation at [SquareMeals.org/FarmFreshChallenge](http://SquareMeals.org/FarmFreshChallenge). Participating schools will receive a toolkit of Farm Fresh Fridays supportive materials, including buttons, static clings and low tack stickers. Register by **August 15th** to ensure you receive your Farm Fresh Fridays materials before **September 1**.

## **NEW!** Resource Available to Help Schools Share the Farm Fresh Celebration with Parents and Family Members

Share your Farm Fresh Challenge celebrations with parents and family members using a new printable resource on [SquareMeals.org](http://SquareMeals.org). This printable resource can be sent to family members via a digital download or as a backpack stuffer.

Learn more about the Farm Fresh Challenge and pledge participation [here](#). Please reach out to TDA at [FarmFresh@TexasAgriculture.gov](mailto:FarmFresh@TexasAgriculture.gov) with any questions or for additional information.

## Copy Paste Promo Kit to Promote the Farm Fresh Challenge

Thank you for promoting the TDA's 2018 Farm Fresh Challenge. Use the **Copy Paste Promo Kit** to help build our statewide megaphone. Simply copy one of the messages in this kit into a newsletter, blog, listserve or message on any social media platform. Download high quality images from the graphics locker [here](#).

## Stay Connected — Subscribe to TDA's Farm Fresh E-Harvest

This newsletter provides a monthly update on farm to school and includes resources such as funding opportunities, a schedule of upcoming trainings and webinars, and more. Archive issues of the E-Harvest are available [here](#). **Subscribe today!**

Connect with your partners at TDA today at [FarmFresh@TexasAgriculture.gov](mailto:FarmFresh@TexasAgriculture.gov).

[Previous Issue](#)



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