



Counting & Claiming System

National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
School Breakfast Program (SBP)



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

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Food and Nutrition Division
Nutrition Assistance Programs



Updated 9/26/2024
www.SquareMeals.org

Housekeeping



Welcome!

Acknowledgement Statement

You understand and acknowledge that:

- The training you are about to take does not cover the entire scope of the program; and that
- You are responsible for knowing and understanding all handbooks, manuals, alerts, notices, and guidance, as well as any other forms of communication that provide further guidance, clarification, or instruction on operating the program.

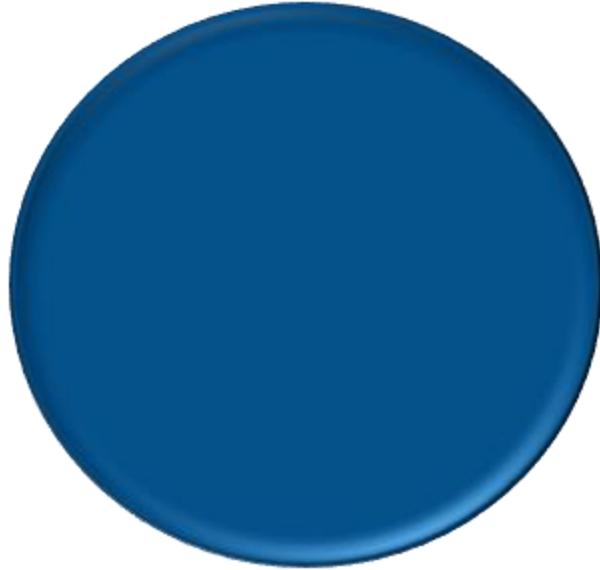
Meal Counting



Pre-assessment

- Use a unique, 4-digit identifier (last 4 of cell #)
- You will use the same ID # for the post-assessment
 - So TDA can collect and analyze data to improve training effectiveness.
 - Anonymous

Why does this matter?



5 minute
Countdown Timer

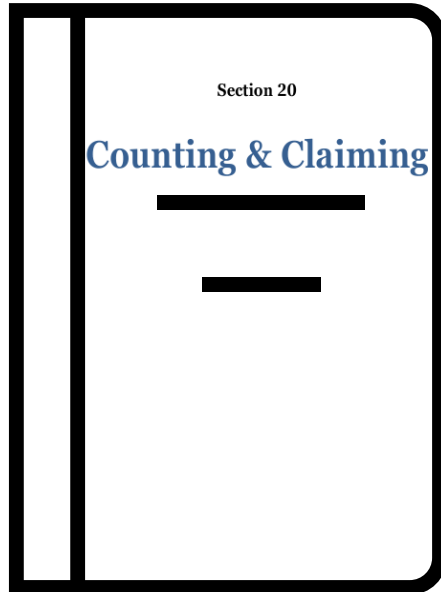
Benefits to Policies and Procedures

Effective
compliance

Proactive
Mindset

Workplace
Culture

Course Materials



Daily Record/Accuclaim Form			
Date		Number of Lunch Serving Days	
		Number of Breakfast Serving Days	
0		Total Approved Reduced for Month	0
Accuclaim Tests for Lunch			

Onsite Monitoring Form | National School Lunch Program (NSLP)

Contracting Entity (CE) Name:

Date of Review:

CE ID Number:

Attendance Factor:

Site Name:

	Yes	No	N/A
I. Application Approval			
1. Are applications approved at this school? Responsible Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are applications on file correctly approved?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the required elements to establish effective and accurate meal counting system procedures.
2. Describe acceptable meal counting and collection procedures.
3. Identify the elements of an Accuclaim System.
4. Describe the importance of meal counting and claiming within the nonprofit school food service financial system.
5. Describe the review process of meal counting and claiming in a compliance review.

USDA Key Areas

- ❖ 2000 (Operations)
- ❖ 3000 (Administration)

USDA Professional Standards Codes

- ❖ Cashiering & Point of Service (2310, 2320, 2330)
- ❖ Financial Management (3310)

Course Overview

Establishing a Foundation

Acceptable and Unacceptable Methods

Quality Control Measures

Financial Management

Administrative Review

01

Establishing a Foundation



Activity Time

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

CE-Specific
Needs

Meal
Accountability
Needs

Administrative
Considerations

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

Information Box 1

Factors That Influence a Counting and Claiming System

Contextual Needs

- Size of the site/s
- Number of meals served
- Number of students participating in the program
- Percentage of students receiving free, reduced-price, and paid meals
- Grade levels involved

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

Meal Accountability Needs

- Point of service capabilities
- Prevention of overt identification
- Recording and controlling student eligibility
- Reimbursable meals served and counted
- Edits and internal checks
- Reporting procedures
- Personnel training and skills

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

Administrative Considerations

- Account balances maintenance
- Financial analysis such as budget and sales
- Program profit and loss status, including self-sustainability
- Daily operations
- Personnel training such as cost and time
- Support and updating processes
- Technology needs

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

D.I.R.T.

D escribe

I mplement

R ecord & Retain


T rain



Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

Describe

The policies and procedures

- What is a policy?
 - What is the purpose of a policy?
 - Why are policies and procedures needed?
 - Where does a CE describe their policies and procedures?
- 

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

What is a policy?

- Written statement that sets an organization's approach to a particular subject.

What is its purpose?

- Provide guidance and direction on how certain tasks or activities should be conducted in order to ensure consistency and compliance.

Where does a CE describe their policies?

- In the contract/agreement with TDA.
- 

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

“Attachment B”

School Nutrition Programs

TX-UNPS

Applications | Claims | Compliance | Reports | Security | Search

Item	Description
Contracting Entity Manager	SNP Contracting Entity's Profile, Site and Hold Info
Application Packet	Applications Forms (Contracting Entity and Site)
Attachment B	Policy Statement for Free and Reduced-Price Meals/Meal Count/Collection Procedure(s)
Attachment B: Upload Attachments	Manage the upload of attachments for the Attachment B
Second Review of Applications	FNS-874 report for Contracting Entity's selected to review applications.
Verification Report	Mandatory Annual Verification Report
Verification Summary	Mandatory Annual Verification Report (FNS-742) Summary
Food Safety Inspections	Number of Food Safety Inspections by Site
Food Safety Inspections Summary	Number of Food Safety Inspections by Site Summary
Annual Audits	Annual Audits
FFVP Summary	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Invitations and Reports
Financial Report	School Food Annual Revenues and Expenditures Report
Financial Report Summary	School Food Annual Revenues and Expenditures Report Summary
FFVP Application Packet	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Application Form
FFVP Grants	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Grant Information
FFVP Grant Overview	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Grant Information Overview
Summer Nutrition Program Costs	Total Costs Associated with Operating a Summer Nutrition Program
Capital Expenditure Request	Request for funds to purchase capital items >= \$5,000
Community Eligibility Provision	Enrollment and Eligibility for Community Eligibility Provision
Texas Summer Mandate	Summer Nutrition Programs Intent Declaration
Texas Summer Mandate Summary	Summer Nutrition Programs Intent Summary
TX ELMS	Eligibility List Management System for direct certification
MENU Module	Menu Planning and Analysis module
Download Forms	Forms Available for Downloading

School Nutrition Programs

TX-UNPS

Applications | Claims | Compliance | Reports | Security | Search

Applications > Attachment B List >

VIEW

Policy Statement for Free and Reduced-Price Meals, Attachment B: Meal Count/Collection Procedure(s) (Attachment B)

Comments to Contracting Entity

APPROVAL DATE: 8/20/2020 -HR

The CE must use the Attachment B to indicate its counting and claiming processes for all NSLP and SBP meals—breakfast, lunch, and snack. If the CE does not use the same counting and claiming process(es) for all NSLP and SBP meals, it must describe the exception(s) in Question 9(f).

The CE must include an Attachment B when initially submitting its program application and must review its Attachment B each year. If changes are made to the CE's counting and claiming processes, an updated Attachment B must be submitted for approval immediately.

1. This Meal Count/Collection Procedure is effective starting in School Year: 2020-2021 ▼
2. Do any sites in the CE serve all meals to all children without charge?
 - Yes, all sites
 - Yes, some, but not all, sites
 - No

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

Why?

Why is the “Attachment B” so important?

- The “Attachment B” is your roadmap and policy agreement with the State Agency:
 - Money
 - Time in the AR



Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming



MY SHIELD

Act With Integrity
Have a Positive Attitude
Exceptional Actions



MY SUCCESS

Maintain Unwavering Integrity



MY RESPONSIBILITY

Safeguard My Program



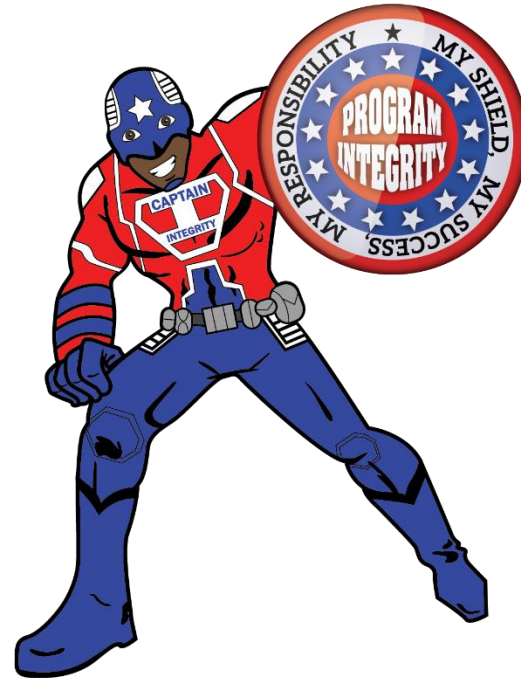
**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING,
SAY SOMETHING**

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Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming



301.	How does the SFA's point of service system identify a student's eligibility? Include all types of distinct counting methods (e.g., check-off list for grades 1-3, tickets for grades 4-8).		
Comments:			
302.	Does the SFA have a backup system to their primary meal counting and claiming system should the primary system fail/not operate?	YES	NO
If YES, describe backup system in the comments.			
Comments:			
303.	How often are cashiers and substitute cashiers trained on the meal counting and claiming system (including the backup system)?		
Comments:			
304.	At the end of meal service, how does the SFA obtain the daily meal counts by category from each school's point(s) of service?		
Comments:			
305.	What are the SFA's meal counting and claiming policies and procedures for the following situations:		
a) Offer vs. Serve?			N/A

USDA's AR off-site assessment tool

8. What are the meal counting and collecting procedures that are used to record free, reduced-price, and paid meals or charged meals at the point of service (POS) and on the roster? Check all that apply.

a. Verbal identifier entered into the POS system to allow each participant's meal to be recorded on the roster by category—free, reduced-price, or paid.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.

b. Coded ticket, token, or identification (ID) card presented at the POS to allow each participant's meal to be recorded on the roster by category—free, reduced-price, or paid.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.

c. Coded bar line card for scanning at the POS system to allow each participant's meal to be recorded on the roster by category—free, reduced-price, or paid.

Select Site(s)

0001 - [REDACTED], 0003 - [REDACTED], 0004 - [REDACTED]
0005 - [REDACTED]

d. Coded number typed into a keypad system at the POS to allow each participant's meal to be recorded on the roster by category—free, reduced-price, or paid.

Select Site(s)

0001 - [REDACTED], 0003 - [REDACTED], 0004 - [REDACTED]
0005 - [REDACTED]

e. Another individual identifier such as electronic thumbprint or biometrics is entered by the student—the system is designed so that the use of the identifier records the meal at the POS on the roster by category—free, reduced-price, or paid.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.

f. Other POS system to allow each participant's meal to be recorded on the roster by category—free, reduced-price, or paid.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.


Describe other policy:

SFA's Attachment B

Activity Time

Implement

The policies and procedures (at the POS)

- Modes of Payment/Method of Exchange
 - Charge Policy Implementation
 - Advertisement for meal payment and charging for meals
 - Procedures to record free, reduced-price, paid, or charged meals at POS and on POS roster
 - Location of cashier/Point of Service
- 



Implement

Mode of Payment/Method of Exchange

- What the student provides at POS to receive a meal
- Must provide confidentiality
- Method must be described in Attachment B
- All students must be provided the selected medium of exchange



Activity

Using your Attachment B, fill out questions 301 and 302 on your activity sheet.

Activity

301. How does the SFA's point of service system identify a student's eligibility? Include all types of distinct counting methods (e.g., check-off list for grades 1-3, tickets for grades 4-8).

302. Does the SFA have a backup system to their primary meal counting and claiming system should the primary system fail/not operate?

If YES, describe backup system in the comments.

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming



Key Policy Considerations

- Maintain the financial integrity of the Programs
- Provide children with adequate nutrition to focus in school
- Minimize stigmatization children with meal charges

USDA

USDA

Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

Charge Policy

- Why is implementing my charge policy so important?

“Site Level 314 - On the day of review students were observed to have unlimited charging of any served items at breakfast and lunch. Attachment B states that students may charge up to five meals and they will not allow the charge of second servings or a la carte items if the student has met the limit of five meal charges. The cafeteria staff will provide the student with an alternate meal after the accumulation of five meal charges and the student account will be charged accordingly.”





Charge Policy

Charge policy must:

- Be board approved (public/charter schools)
- Be implemented consistently for all students or for the designated grade levels.

Charge policy may:

- Change by grade/site

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Charge Policy

Policy examples may include:

- Allowing students to charge all available reimbursable meals.
- Allowing students to charge a limited number/type of meal.
- Provide the lowest cost reimbursable meal available or the lowest cost meal available when the student has a negative balance that has reached the CE's predetermined threshold, as long as the meal is offered to all students as a choice in a regular meal service line



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Charge Policy



In all cases, a student that qualifies for free meals cannot be denied a reimbursable meal, even if the student has accrued a negative balance from other purchases, such as a la carte sales and extra items.

- Can limit other purchases if a negative balance:
 - A la carte
 - Extra items

TASB Contact List

One policy contact per district



Implement

Advertisement for meal payment and charging for meals

- From ARM Section 20:
 - Information about payment and/or charging of meals should be routinely publicized. Appropriate notice strategies include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Posted signs
 - Public announcements
 - Printed informational materials sent home with students or directly to households



Advertisement for meal payment/charging for meals

CEP School

Parent & Scholar Handbook (English)

Charge Policy

The intent of this policy is to establish uniform meal account procedures throughout ██████████ ██████████ campuses.

Free Meal Benefit - All scholars will be allowed to receive a free and reimbursable breakfast and lunch each day, as well as a “supper” snack free Monday through Thursday.

Second Meals - Scholars with a positive balance will have access to second breakfast \$2.00 and/or Lunch \$3.00. No à la carte purchases will be permitted if account has a negative balance.

Payment - Payments are received through <www.schoolcafe.com> and/or the front office. We accept cash, credit cards and personal checks.

Balances - Balance of your scholar’s school lunch account may be checked at any time at <www.schoolcafe.com>.

Parent or Guardian may request in writing a refund of the remaining money on their scholar’s account if they are withdrawing or graduating from AAPS.

State-Mandated Nutrition Guidelines

The TDA places limits on any food or drink provided or sold to scholars other than through the school’s food and nutrition services. More detailed information may be obtained at the school office or online at <www.squaremeals.org>.

Charge Policy

██████████ SD

FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT

CO
(LOCAL)

Food Donations

The Superintendent shall be authorized to develop regulations for campuses to donate food in accordance with law.

Meal Charges

State Law

As established by the Board, a student with an exhausted or insufficient balance on his or her meal card or meal account shall be allowed to continue to purchase meals for up to the dollar equivalence of two meals. The Superintendent shall develop administrative regulations for this grace period to address:

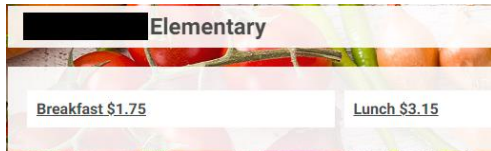
1. The District's processes for parent notification during the grace period, including a schedule for repayment; and
2. Whether the student will be limited to certain foods or beverages during this grace period, and, if so, the District's efforts to minimize overt identification of the student.

No fees or interest shall be charged by the District for meals purchased during the grace period.

Federal Law

For each campus that participates in the federal school breakfast or lunch programs under which students may incur a meal charge, the District's administrative regulations shall also address procedures for a student who has insufficient funds to purchase a meal following exhaustion of the grace period described above. The procedures shall address:

1. The parameters under which reimbursable or alternate meals shall be served to the student;
2. The District's efforts to minimize overt identification of the student; and
3. How the District will attempt to collect unpaid debt in order to maintain the financial integrity of the food service account.



4. What is the written policy for children charging? Check all that apply.

- a. Students may charge *reimbursable* meals with no limit on the number of charges.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.

- b. Students may charge a specific number of *reimbursable* meals before the site will not serve the student a meal.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.

- c. Students may charge a specific number of *non-reimbursable* meals before the site will not serve the student a meal.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.

- d. Students may charge a specific dollar amount for *reimbursable* meals before the site will not serve the student a meal.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.

- e. Students may charge a specific dollar amount for *non-reimbursable* meals before the site will not serve the student a meal.

Select Site(s)

██████████ EL (\$ 9.00) ██████████ EL (\$ 9.00), ██████████ ELEMNTARY (\$ 9.00), ██████████ ELEMNTARY (\$ 9.00), ██████████ ELEMNTARY SCHOOL (\$ 9.00), ██████████ ELEMNTARY (\$ 9.00), ██████████ ELEMNTARY (\$ 9.00)

- f. Students may charge *non-reimbursable* meals with no limit on the number of charges.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.

- g. Other charging policy.

Select Site(s)

No sites selected.

Describe other policy:

Implement

Procedures to record free, reduced-price, and paid meals at POS and on POS roster

- Accurate daily count for each reimbursable meal by category and type of meal.
- **Attachment B:**
 8. What are the meal counting and collecting procedures that are used to record free, reduced-price, and paid meals or charged meals at the point of service (POS) and on the roster? Check all that apply.



Coded number typed into keypad system at POS



Computer system with POS roster



Small Group Discussion

- Does the meal counting system prevent overt identification of students receiving free and reduced price benefits?
- How could this POS system identify a student's eligibility?
- Would a digital spreadsheet be an acceptable POS roster (backup)?
- What alternate POS rosters could this CE use?
- What do you use as a backup method?



POS Roster

- Typically, a list of all students (free, reduced-price, and paid) enrolled at each site that would include the following:
 - Student's name
 - Eligibility status
 - Date of eligibility determination
 - Date and notation of any changes in status
- Lists may be electronic
- Each POS must have a backup method readily available

POS Roster

- Typically includes Student's name, eligibility status, date of eligibility determination, and date and notation of any changes in status
- What information would you need to complete the POS roster?

Benefits Issuance List


POS Roster

Table discussion

- What are some best practices for the POS Roster / benefits issuance list?
- How do you ensure F&N department has an updated/cleaned up version every year?
- What are best practices for ensuring register buttons/keys are coded correctly?



Location of Cashier

- Where should the cashier/point of service be located?
 - Alternate points of service:
 - Meals in the classroom, bus, etc.
 - What procedures/checks should be in place to ensure the correct number of meals are claimed for alternate points of service?
 - How do your POS system and procedures prevent duplicate or second meals from being claimed?
- 

Cashier at POS



Computer system with POS roster



Record & Retain

What does a CE need to record and retain?

- Enrollment information
- Meal counting and claiming
- Menu planning and nutritional standards
- Eligibility determination
- Training and monitoring



Record & Retain

Enrollment information

- Number of children enrolled in the program, with the following:
 - Names
 - Birth dates
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Household size and income
 - Special needs
- Why does a CE need to retain this information?
 - Used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price meals

Record & Retain

Meal counting and claiming

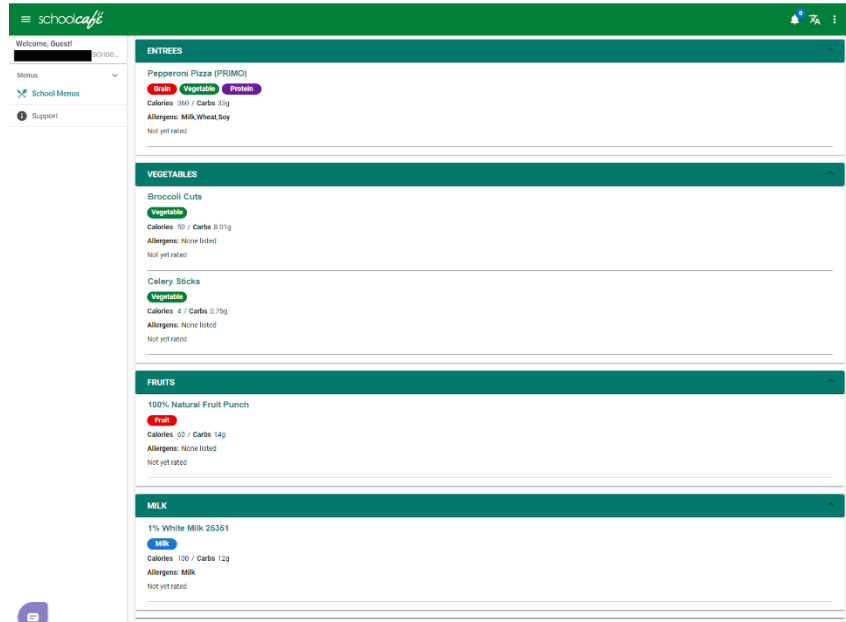
- Number of meals served to each participant by type
- Number of meals claimed for reimbursement
- Daily attendance record
- POS meal count roster



Record & Retain

Menu planning and nutritional standards

- Document compliance
 - Menu planning
 - Nutritional standards
 - Menus
 - Production records



The screenshot displays the 'schoolcafe' website interface. The header is green with the 'schoolcafe' logo and user information: 'Welcome, Guest!' and '(0) 100...'. A left sidebar contains navigation options: 'Menus', 'School Menus', and 'Support'. The main content area is divided into sections for different food categories, each with a green header and a downward arrow:

- ENTREES**: Pepperoni Pizza (PRIMO) with tags 'Grain', 'Vegetable', and 'Protein'. Nutrition: Calories 300 / Carbs 70g. Allergens: Milk, Wheat, Soy. Status: Not yet rated.
- VEGETABLES**:
 - Broccoli Cuts with tag 'Vegetable'. Nutrition: Calories 35 / Carbs 6.01g. Allergens: None listed. Status: Not yet rated.
 - Celery Sticks with tag 'Vegetable'. Nutrition: Calories 4 / Carbs 0.75g. Allergens: None listed. Status: Not yet rated.
- FRUITS**: 100% Natural Fruit Punch with tag 'Fruit'. Nutrition: Calories 35 / Carbs 14g. Allergens: None listed. Status: Not yet rated.
- MILK**: 1% White Milk 20351 with tag 'Milk'. Nutrition: Calories 100 / Carbs 12g. Allergens: Milk. Status: Not yet rated.

Record & Retain

Eligibility determination

- Applications
- Income verification
- Direct certification documentation



Verification resources
[Squaremeals.org](https://squaremeals.org)

Record & Retain

Training and monitoring

- Staff training records
 - Civil Rights training
- Onsite monitoring reports
 - Ongoing observation
- Corrective action plans

Meal Count System

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Does the meal count system produce an accurate count of reimbursable meals (free/reduced-price/paid) served to eligible children? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| a. Is the implemented collection procedure the approved collection procedure? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Is the method used for counting reimbursable meals in compliance with the approved point of service requirement?
<i>(Meal counts must be taken at the location where complete meals are served to children.)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. If the meal count is not taken at the end of the foodservice line, does the school have a system to account for reimbursable meals? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Is the point-of-service meal count used to determine the school's claim for reimbursement? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Is the person responsible for monitoring meals taken by students correctly identifying reimbursable meals at the point of service (POS)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Record & Retain Claim Submissions

60-Calendar Day Rule Chart	
Month	Last Day for Claim Submission (In cases where the last day of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or TDA holiday, or Federal Holiday, the due date is the next business day.)
January	April 1 (Leap Year – March 31)
February	April 29
March	May 30
April	June 29
May	July 30
June	August 29
July	September 29
August	October 30
September	November 29
October	December 30
November	January 29
December	March 1 (Leap Year – February 29)

Weekends/Holidays. If the 60th day is on a weekend or a federal holiday, the claim must be received no later than midnight on the next business day following the weekend day or holiday.

The 60-Calendar Day Rule timeframe is applicable to all 12 months of the year. In applying the 60-Calendar Day Rule, CEs need to be sure that summer claims are submitted within the 60-day time limit.

Train

Table discussion

- In an ideal world, when should you train your staff?
 - New employees?
 - Returning employees?



Train

Table discussion

- What are some examples of training for the following positions?
 - Cashiers
 - Cooks
 - Assistant director/manager
 - Site manager



Train

Situation discussion


During a Professional Development day training, an employee brings you a new method of counting meals that will improve efficiency and accuracy. However, the new method is different than what your school submitted to TDA in your Attachment B.

What should you do?



Activity

Using your Attachment B and knowledge of your policies and procedures, fill out question 303 on your activity sheet.



Establishing an Effective Foundation for Counting & Claiming

D.I.R.T.

D escribe

I mplement

R ecord & Retain

T rain



02

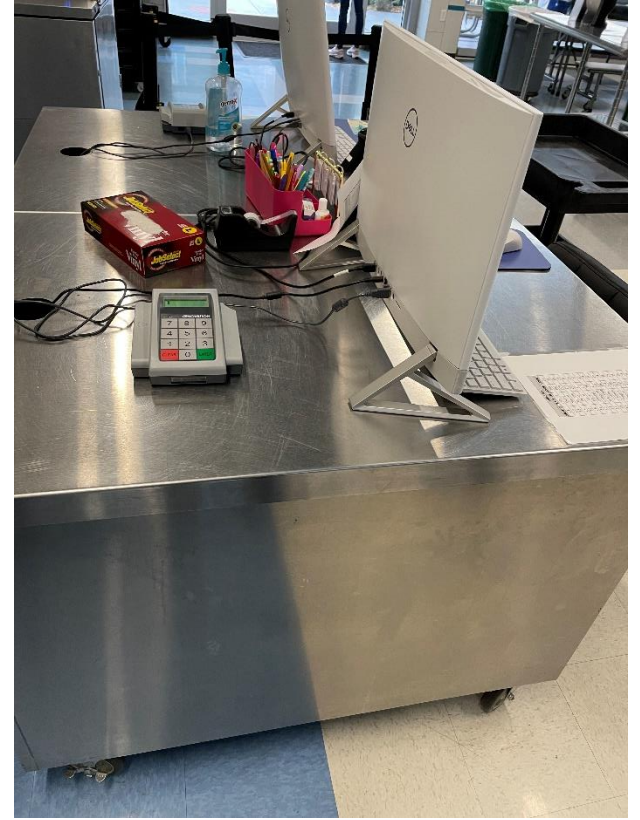
Acceptable Meal Counting Procedures & Cashiering



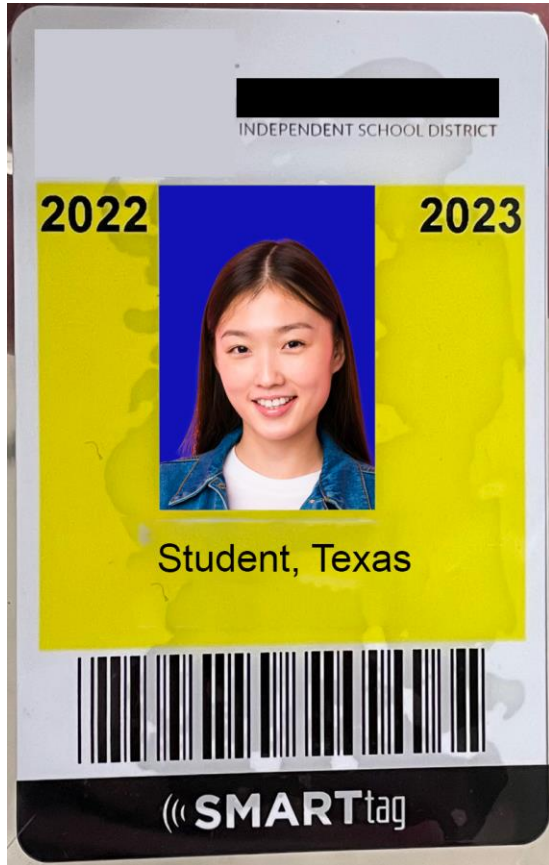
Coded number typed into keypad system at POS



Computer system with POS roster



Student ID scanned at POS



Computer system with POS roster



Unacceptable meal counting procedures

- Attendance counts
- Tray, plate, or entrée counts
- Classroom counting
- Prepaid/charged meals counted on day paid
- Cash converted to meals
- Delivery counts of meals produced off-site
- Visual identification without backup



Point of Service Duty



Point of Service Duty



03

Quality Assurance Measures



Quality Assurance Measures

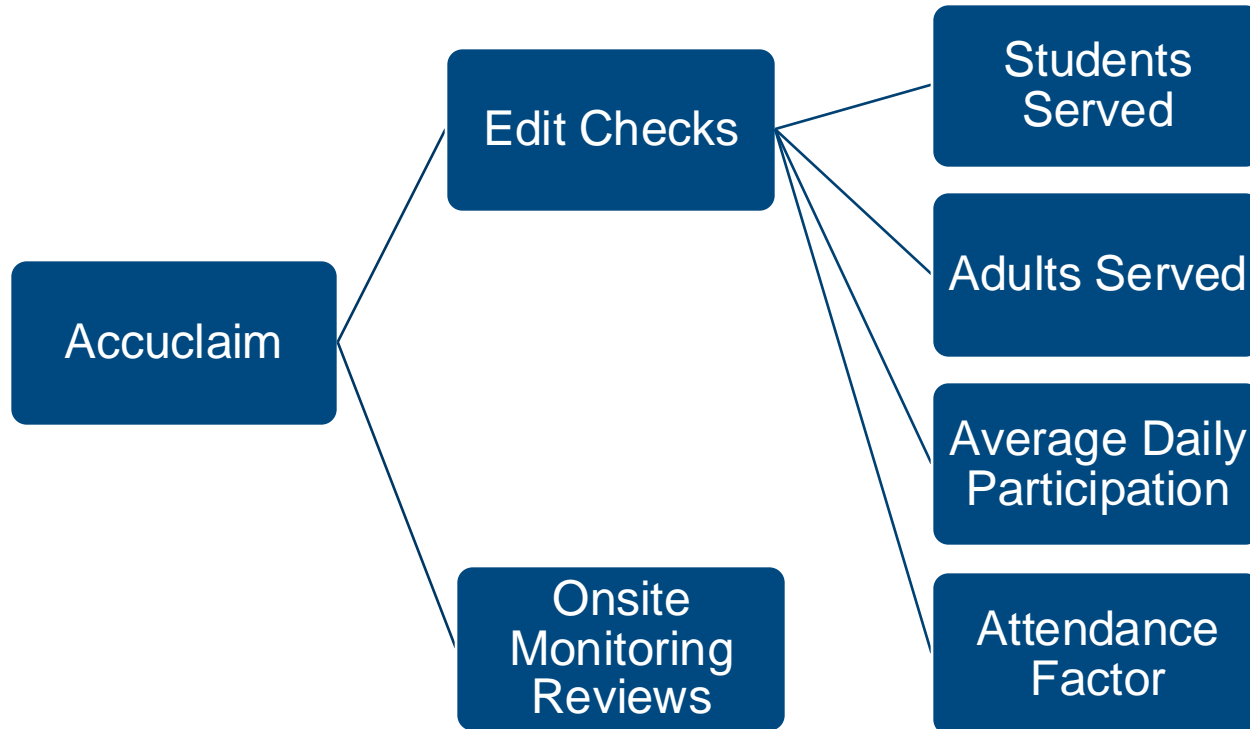
Serving
With
Success

Meal Counting
and Claiming

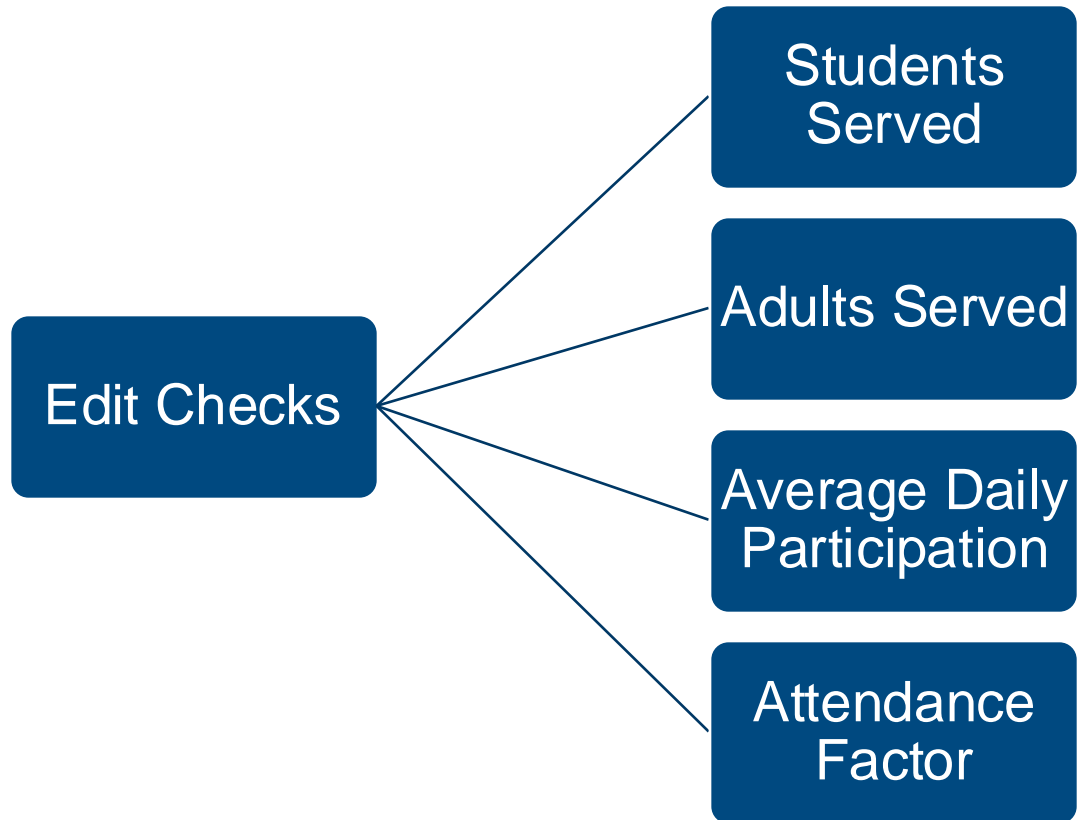
United
Tuition.org

1/1/11

Quality Assurance Measures











Quality Assurance Measures



Quality Assurance Measures

School Nutrition Program Forms

[Search](#) [Reset Search](#)

Form Name	Form Number	Form Download	Form Download (Alternative Format)	Instructions Download	Program Name ^a																				
Daily Record/Accuclaim Form Afterschool Programs					School Nutrition Program Forms																				
Daily Record/Accuclaim Form Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) and Lunch Attendance Factor Calculator					<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">Daily Record/Accuclaim Form</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th colspan="2">Number of Lunch Serving Days</th> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="2">Number of Breakfast Serving Days</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0</td> <td colspan="2">Total Approved Reduced for Month</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="4">Accuclaim Tests for Lunch</th> </tr> </thead></table>	Daily Record/Accuclaim Form				Date	Number of Lunch Serving Days				Number of Breakfast Serving Days			0	Total Approved Reduced for Month		0	Accuclaim Tests for Lunch			
Daily Record/Accuclaim Form																									
Date	Number of Lunch Serving Days																								
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0	Total Approved Reduced for Month		0																						
Accuclaim Tests for Lunch																									
Daily Record/Accuclaim Form Provision 2 (P2), Non-Base Year and Lunch Attendance Factor Calculator					Program Forms																				
Daily Record/Accuclaim Form and Lunch Attendance Factor Calculator					School Nutrition Program Forms																				

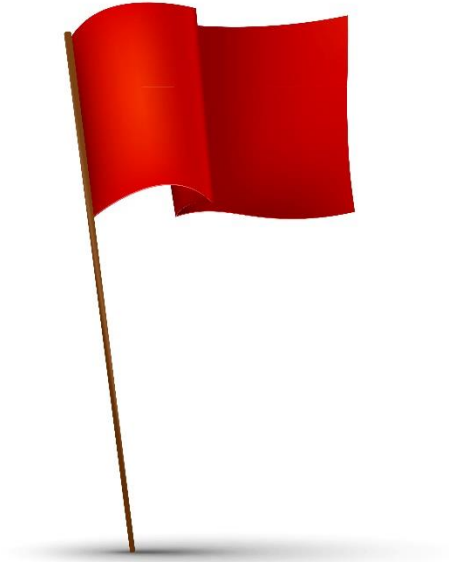
Edit Checks / Tips & Tricks

USDA's Required Edit Check Procedures for Each Site


1. Obtain and record the highest number of students in each category
2. Compute the attendance factor
3. Multiply the number of enrolled children approved in each meal category (free, reduced-price, and paid) by the **monthly** attendance factor
4. Compare the attendance adjusted eligible figures to the daily counts of free, reduced-price, and paid meals
5. Provide written justification next to any day where the count exceeds the attendance-adjusted number (Ex. Meal participation increased due to a pizza day or special promotion)

Red flags

- Patterns or repetition of numbers
- Counts which equal the number of F/R/P eligibles
- Counts equal to the number of meals prepared/delivered
- Identical counts on certain days (every Monday or breakfast and lunch)
- **These would indicate that you need to investigate!**



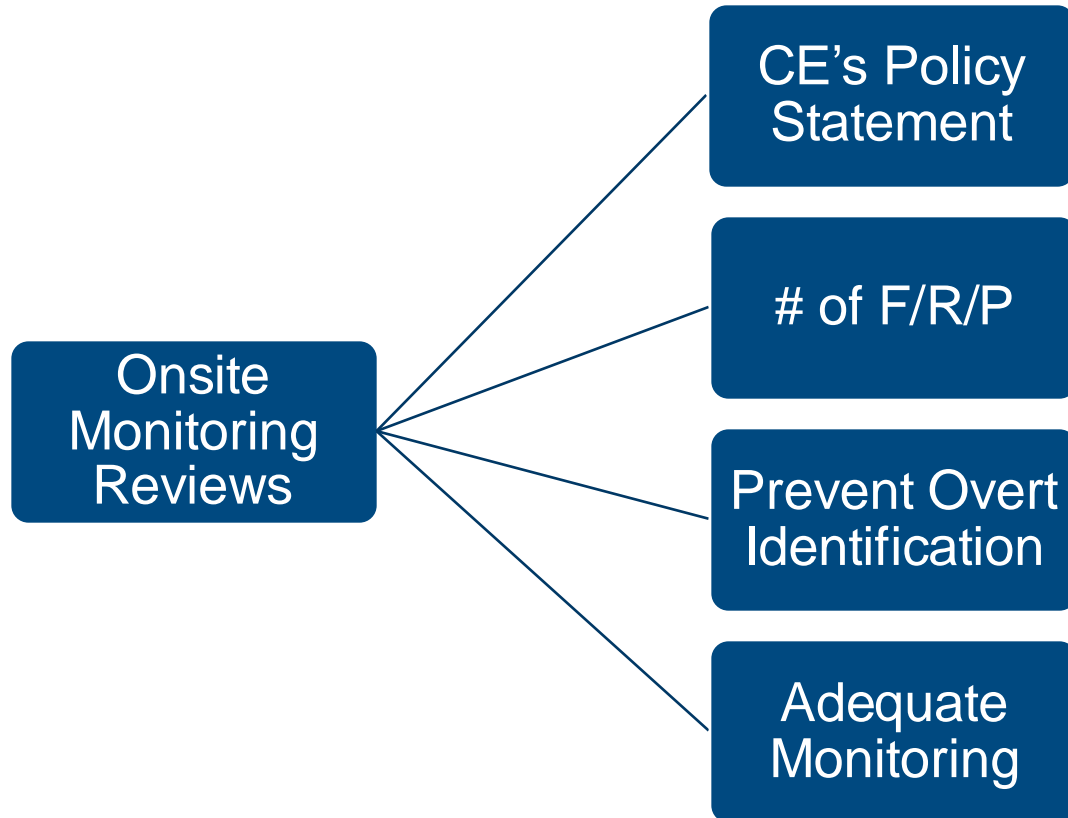
Common counting issues: breakfast in the classroom

- No daily coded rosters, or rosters not checked off as meal is served in the classroom at the point of service
 - Inadequate training of classroom staff as point of service
 - Counts equal to the number of meals delivered to the classroom
 - Counts based on attendance
 - Inadequate monitoring of the breakfast in the classroom procedures
- 

Quality Assurance Measures



Quality Assurance Measures



Quality Assurance Measures

School Nutrition Program Forms

[Search](#) [Reset Search](#)

Form Name	Form Number	Form Download	Form Download (Alternative Format)	Instructions Download	Program Name
Onsite Monitoring Form Afterschool Care Program (ASCP) and Child and Adult Care Food Program At-Risk (CACFP At-Risk)					School Nutrition Program Form
Onsite Monitoring Form Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)					School Nutrition Program Form
Onsite Monitoring Form National School Lunch Program (NSLP)					School Nutrition Program Form

Use of This Form

Frequency

CEs must complete this form at least once annually before February 1; recommended every other month.

Required Form Format

Use this form or a similar reporting instrument.

Record Retention

Completed forms kept onsite and made available on request. Public and charter schools are required to keep documentation related to school nutrition programs for 5 years. Private schools, other nonprofit organizations, and residential child care institutions (RCCIs) are required to keep documentation for 3 years.

Activity Time

Quality Assurance Measures

National School Lunch Program, Standard Counting and Claiming

Required: At least once annually prior to February 1st of each school year for all school sites

Recommended: Every month

Form: *Onsite Monitoring Form—National School Lunch Program (NSLP)*

School Breakfast Program

Required: At least once prior to February 1st of each school year for fifty percent of the sites operating SBP each year, i.e., every site is reviewed every other year

Recommended: Every month

Form: *Onsite Monitoring Form | School Breakfast Program (SBP)*

Activity

Using your Attachment B and knowledge of your policies and procedures, fill out questions 304, 310 and 311 on your activity sheet.

Activity

304. At the end of meal service, how does the SFA obtain the daily meal counts by category from each school's point(s) of service?

310. At the site level, how are the total daily meal counts by category submitted to the SFA for consolidation?

311. Describe the SFA's procedures for consolidating daily meal counts by category for each site to process the claim for reimbursement, if applicable.



04

Financial Management



Financial Management

Revenue

```
graph LR; Revenue[Revenue] --- StudentMeals[Student Meals]; Revenue --- AdultVisitorMeals[Adult/Visitor Meals]; Revenue --- NonprogramFoods[Nonprogram Foods (a la carte)]; Revenue --- StateMatchingFunds[State Matching Funds];
```

Student Meals

Adult/Visitor
Meals

Nonprogram
Foods (a la carte)

State Matching
Funds

05

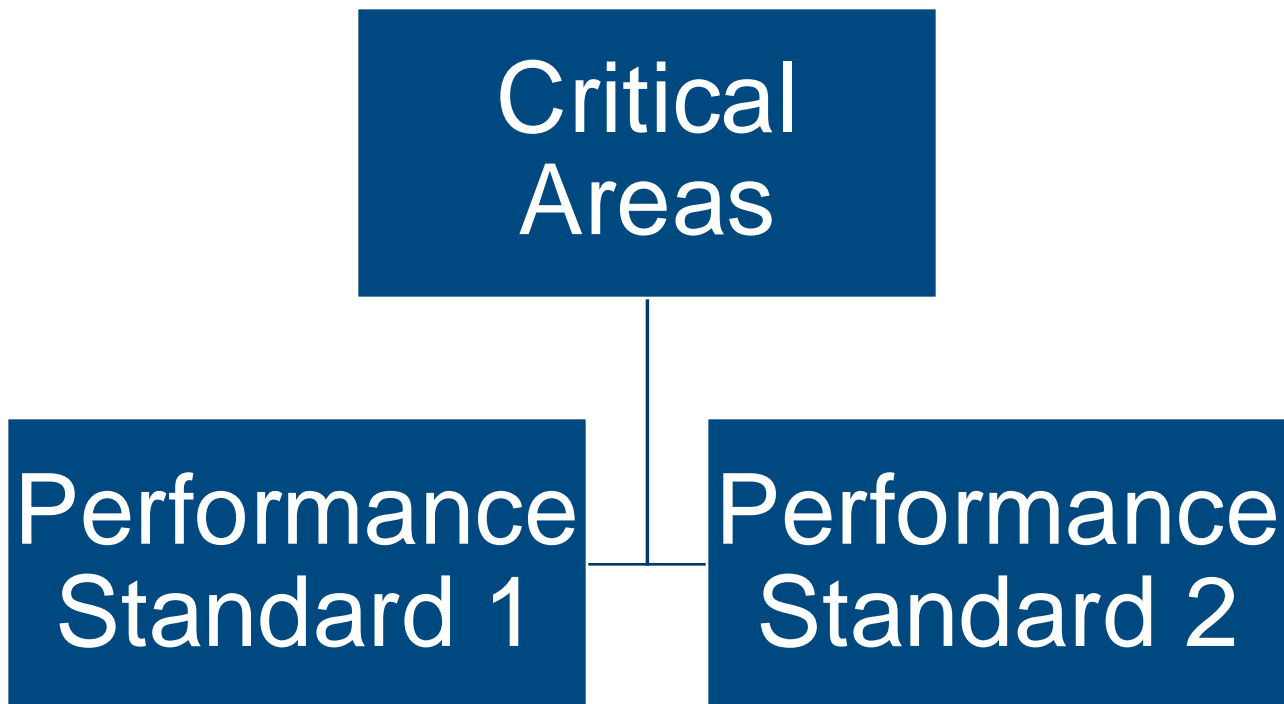
Compliance Reviews



Compliance Reviews



Compliance Reviews



Compliance Reviews



Required Uploads- MOR Meal Counting and Claiming Sample Documentation

Due Date

Counting and
Claiming Day

- Detailed transaction meal count report(s) AND/OR Roster(s) (manual system, BIC)
- Corresponding Edit Check(s) for reimbursable meals that include the following for each program (NSLP, SBP), for the date(s) and site(s) selected for review:
 - Date of Meal Service
 - Type of Meal Service
 - Student Name
 - Student Eligibility

Required Uploads- MOR Claim and Supporting Documentation

Due Date

- CE must submit month of review (MOR) claim for reimbursement prior to the day of review (DOR)
- Reports that support the MOR TX-UNPS Claim(s) for CE-wide (total) and all CE sites.

Compliance Reviews



Meal counts do not match Edit Check reports

Incorrect meal counts submitted in a claim to the State Agency

Missing or no rosters to support meal service counts beyond the POS

Charge policy not implemented or followed

Activity Time



**TIME
FOR
RECAP**

Describe - Policies

- Located in Attachment B
- Road map for meal counting procedures
- Must be followed on site



Implement – Attachment B

- Implement policies in Attachment B
- Must provide confidentiality
- Consistent charge policy



Record and Retain

- Enrollment information
- Meal counting and claiming
- Menu planning
- Eligibility determination
- Training



Training

- Yearly minimums
 - Directors – 12 hours
 - Managers – 10 hours
 - Staff:
 - Full time: 6 hours
 - Part-Time: 4 hours



QUESTIONS?



Learning Objectives

1. Identify the required elements to establish effective and accurate meal counting system procedures.
2. Describe acceptable meal counting and collection procedures.
3. Identify the elements of an Accuclaim System.
4. Describe the importance of meal counting and claiming within the nonprofit school food service financial system.
5. Describe the review process of meal counting and claiming in a compliance review.

Meal Counting



Post-assessment

- Use a unique, 4-digit identifier (last 4 of cell #)
- Use the same ID # used for the pre-assessment
 - So TDA can collect and analyze data to improve training effectiveness.
 - Anonymous

QUESTIONS?



Next Steps

1. Identify key take-aways

- Identify elements of the training that are relevant to YOU

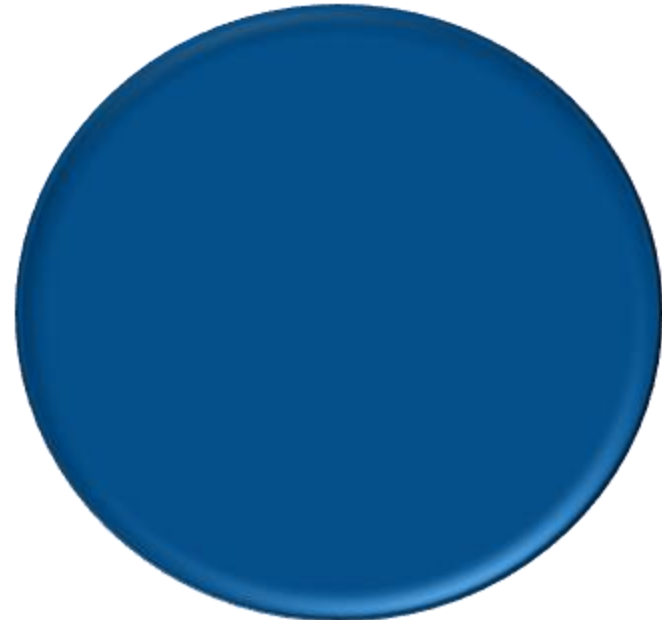
2. Create a plan

- Identify an action you can take upon return to work
- How will you hold yourself accountable?

3. Contact for TA

- Write down your ESC/class instructor's contact info

10 minute
Countdown Timer



ESC Training Survey



Training Survey

- TDA strives to use your feedback to make training as effective as possible.
- Short, 4 question survey that TDA will use to improve training.
 - So TDA can collect and analyze data to improve training effectiveness.
 - Anonymous

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**
program.intake@usda.gov

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Food and Nutrition Division
Nutrition Assistance Programs



Updated 9/26/2024
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