

Kosher and Halal Foods in Child Nutrition Programs

November 14, 2024



Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agenda

- Background
- How kosher and halal foods can fit into CNP meal pattern requirements
- How USDA Foods support kosher and halal meals
- Resources



USDA Priority: Nutrition Security



USDA is:

- Advancing nutrition security in an equitable way that supports resilient, sustainable food systems for all
- Committed to offering a variety of nutritious, domestically produced food options – including kosher and halal foods – through the SBP and NSLP to be inclusive and to meet the needs of ALL communities



What is Kosher?



A Jewish dietary framework for food preparation, processing, and consumption

- Variations exist
- Most guidelines forbid pairing meat and dairy and allow only certain animals to be eaten
- Foods not considered meat or dairy are generally accepted, provided they're produced using kosher equipment and practices
- Fish, eggs, and plant-based foods are usually neutral: they do not contain meat or dairy and may be eaten with either of those food groups



What is Halal?



An Islamic dietary framework for food preparation, processing, and consumption

- Variations exist
- Guidelines typically do not permit:
 - Pork products
 - Alcohol and products that contain alcohol
 - Foods containing ingredients that use non-Halal, animal-derived products



How Kosher & Halal Foods Fit in Child Nutrition Program Meal Patterns



Halal meal offered in Gwinnett County Public Schools

CHILD
NUTRITION
PROGRAMS



Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Strongly Encouraged, Not Required

NSLP/SBP/SFSP 7 CFR 210.10(m)(2)

Variations for non-disability reasons. School food authorities should consider children's dietary preferences when planning and preparing meals and afterschool snacks. Any variations must be consistent with the meal pattern requirements specified under this section. Expenses incurred from meal pattern variations that exceed program reimbursement rates must be paid by the school food authority; costs may be paid from the nonprofit food service account.

CACFP: 7 CFR 226.20(g)(2) ***Variations for non-disability reasons.***

- CNP operators are **strongly encouraged** to consider dietary preferences
- CNP operators are **not required** to make meal modifications for religious reasons



Meal Pattern Requirements

How do Kosher and Halal foods fit?

- Kosher and halal foods can fit into existing Child Nutrition Programs meal pattern requirements
 - Crediting is the same for kosher/non-kosher foods and halal/non-halal foods
- Flexibilities for serving kosher-observant participants:
 - Meat and dairy are not required to be offered together
 - Allows unenriched matzo to credit for Grains component during Passover
 - Exempts dark green vegetable requirement in NSLP
- Applies to all Child Nutrition Programs

**USDA Instruction:
Flexibilities For CNPs Serving
Kosher-observant Participants**



Kosher and Halal Options Through USDA Foods




Foods Available List – Certified Foods


Apple Slices, Unsweetened, Frozen (IQF)
Applesauce, Unsweetened, Canned (K)
Applesauce, Unsweetened, Cups, Shelf-Stable

Kosher certified foods are indicated with a “(K)” on the Foods Available List

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/usda-fis/usda-foods-available>



USDA Foods Available List for School Year 2023-2024 for Schools and Institutions



USDA Foods Description	WBCSM #	PACK SIZE	USDA Foods Description	WBCSM #	PACK SIZE	SUBGROUP
FRUITS			VEGETABLES			
Apples, Braeburn, Fresh	100523	40 lb case	Beans, Green, Low-sodium, Canned (K)	100307	6/#10 can	OTH
Apples, Empire, Fresh	100517	40 lb case	Beans, Green, No Salt Added, Frozen	100351	30 lb case	OTH
Apples, Fuji, Fresh	100522	40 lb case	Beans, Green, No Salt Added, Frozen	11054	12/2 lb bag	OTH
Apples, Gala, Fresh	100521	40 lb case	Broccoli Florets, No Salt Added, Frozen	110473	30 lb case	TRG
Apples, Granny Smith, Fresh	110543	40 lb case	Carrots, Diced, No Salt Added, Frozen	110480	30 lb case	RO
Apples, Red Delicious, Fresh	100514	40 lb case	Carrots, Diced, No Salt Added, Frozen	111052	12/2 lb bag	RO
Apple Slices, Unsweetened, Canned	100206	6/#10 can	Carrots, Sliced, Low-sodium, Canned	100309	6/#10 can	RO
Apple Slices, Unsweetened, Frozen (IQF)	100258	30 lb case	Carrots, Sliced, No Salt Added, Frozen	100352	30 lb case	RO
Applesauce, Unsweetened, Canned (K)	110541	6/#10 can	Corn, Whole Kernel, No Salt Added, Canned (K)	100313	6/#10 can	ST
Applesauce, Unsweetened, Cups, Shelf-Stable	110361	96/4.5 oz cup	Corn, Whole Kernel, No Salt Added, Frozen	100348	30 lb case	ST
Apples, For Processing	110149	Bulk Pounds	Corn, Whole Kernel, No Salt Added, Frozen	111053	12/2.5 lb bag	ST
Apricots, Diced, Cups, Frozen	100261	96/4.5 oz cup	Mixed Vegetables, No Salt Added, Frozen	111230	6/5 lb bag	ADD'L
Apricots, Diced, Extra Light Syrup, Canned	100216	6/#10 can	Peas, Green, Low-sodium, Canned	100315	6/#10 can	ST
Blueberries, Wild, Unsweetened, Frozen	100243	30 lb case	Peas, Green, No Salt Added, Frozen	100350	30 lb case	ST
Blueberries, Wild, Unsweetened, Frozen	100242	8/3 lb bag	Peas, Green, No Salt Added, Frozen	110763	12/2.5 lb bag	ST
Blueberries, Unsweetened, Frozen	110624	30 lb case	Pepper/Onion Strips, No Salt Added, Frozen	110724	30 lb case	OTH
Blueberries, Unsweetened, Frozen	110623	12/2.5 lb bag	Potatoes, Diced, No Salt Added, Frozen	110844	6/5 lb bag	ST
Cherries, Tart, Dried	100299	4/4 lb bag	Potatoes, Oven Fries, Low-sodium, Frozen	100357	6/5 lb bag	ST
Cherries, Tart, Dried, Individual Portion	111643	250/1.36 oz bag	Potatoes, Wedges, Fat Free, Low-sodium, Frozen (IQF)	100356	6/5 lb bag	ST
Cherries, Sweet, Pitted, Unsweetened, Frozen (IQF)	110872	12/2.5 lb bag	Potatoes, Wedges, Low-sodium, Frozen (IQF)	100355	6/5 lb bag	ST
Cranberries, Dried, Individual Portion	110723	300/1.16 oz bag	Potatoes, For Processing to Frozen	100306	Bulk Pounds	ST
Mixed Berries (Blueberries, Strawberries), Cups, Frozen	110859	96/4 oz cup	Potatoes, For Processing to Dehydrated	110227	Bulk Pounds	ST
Mixed Fruit (Apples, Cherries, Cranberries, Raisins), Dried	110161	5/5 lb bag	Salsa, Low-sodium, Canned	100230	6/#10 can	RO
Mixed Fruit (Peaches, Pears, Grapes), Extra Light Syrup, Canned	100212	6/#10 can	Salsa, Low-sodium, Pouch	110186	6/106 oz pouch	RO
Oranges, Fresh	100283	34-39 lb case	Spaghetti Sauce, Low-sodium, Canned	100336	6/#10 can	RO
Orange Juice, Unsweetened, Cartons, Frozen	100277	70/4 oz carton	Spaghetti Sauce, Low-sodium, Pouch	110177	6/106 oz pouch	RO
Orange Juice, Unsweetened, Cups, Frozen	110651	96/4 oz cup	Spinach, Chopped, No Salt Added, Frozen (IQF)	110425	20 lb case	TRG
Peaches, Diced, Extra Light Syrup, Canned	100220	6/#10 can	Sweet Potatoes, Cubes, No Salt Added, Frozen	110562	6/5 lb bag	RO
Peaches, Diced, Cups, Frozen	100241	96/4.4 oz cup	Sweet Potatoes, Crinkle Cut Fries, Low-sodium, Frozen	110721	6/5 lb bag	RO
Peaches, Sliced, Frozen	100239	20 lb case	Sweet Potatoes, Light Syrup, No Salt Added, Canned	100317	6/#10 can	RO
Peaches, Sliced, Frozen	100238	12/2 lb bag	Sweet Potatoes, For Processing	100980	Bulk Pounds	RO
Peaches, Sliced, Extra Light Syrup, Canned	100219	6/#10 can	Tomato Paste, No Salt Added, Canned	100327	6/#10 can	RO
Pears, Diced, Extra Light Syrup, Canned (K)	100225	6/#10 can	Tomato Paste, For Processing	100332	2850 lb totes	RO
Pears, Halves, Extra Light Syrup, Canned	100226	6/#10 can	Tomato Sauce, Low-sodium, Canned	100334	6/#10 can	RO
Pears, Sliced, Extra Light Syrup, Canned	100224	6/#10 can	Tomato Sauce, Low-sodium, Pouch	110187	6/106 oz pouch	RO
Raisins, Unsweetened, Individual Portion	100293	144/1.33 oz unit	Tomatoes, Diced, No Salt Added, Canned	100329	6/#10 can	RO
Strawberries, Diced, Cups, Frozen	100256	96/4.5 oz cup				
Strawberries, Sliced, Frozen	100254	30 lb pail				
Strawberries, Sliced, Unsweetened, Frozen (IQF)	110860	6/5 lb bag				
Strawberries, Whole, Unsweetened, Frozen (IQF)	110846	6/5 lb bag				

KEY:

- TRG - Dark Green vegetable subgroup
- OTH - Other vegetable subgroup
- RO - Red/Orange vegetable subgroup
- ST - Starchy vegetable subgroup
- ADD'L - Product credits towards additional vegetables
- IQF - Individually Quick Frozen
- K - Kosher Certification Required
- Bulk Product for Further Processing

This list is subject to change based on market availability. Please refer to the WBCSM catalog which contains the most up to date list of available USDA Foods.

January 2023



USDA Foods
in Schools

Foods Available List – Inherently Kosher and Halal

25+



Foods on the FAL that may be inherently kosher or halal include:

- Plant-based proteins: dried pinto beans
- Fresh produce: apples and oranges
- Grains: rice and rolled oats

USDA Foods Database



Access the database
on the FNS website














USDA
Foods



USDA Foods
in Schools

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/usda-fis/usda-foods-database>

Certifications

 http://oukosher.org/	 http://www.star-k.org/	 http://www.ok.org/
 http://www.kof-k.org/	 http://www.crcweb.org/	 https://trianglek.org/
 www.ifanca.org	 www.halalfoundation.org/	 www.ushalalcertification.com
 www.ushalalcertification.com	 www.ushalalcertification.com	



Kosher



Halal



Example: Certifications

100330 – Salsa, Low-sodium, Canned

ALLERGENS				
Egg Allergen	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	
Fish Allergen	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	
Milk Allergen	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	
Peanut Allergen	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	
Sesame Allergen	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	
Shellfish Allergen	NOT_INTENTIONALLY_NOR_INHERENT LY_INCLUDED	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	
Soy Allergen	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	
Tree Nut Allergen	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	
Wheat Allergen	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	FREE_FROM	
CERTIFICATIONS				
Kosher	Triangle K	Orthodox Union	Orthodox Union	←
Halal			The Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America	
INGREDIENTS				
	Tomato Puree (Water, Tomato Paste), Tomatoes, Onions, Green Bell Peppers, Contains Less Than 2% of the Following: Jalapeno Peppers (Jalapeno Peppers, Distilled Vinegar, Salt, Calcium Chloride), Distilled Vinegar, Modified Food Starch (Corn), Citric Acid, Garlic Powder, Xanthan Gum, Natural Flavor, Salt, Spice	Tomato Puree, Diced Tomatoes in Tomato Juice, Jalapeno Peppers, Distilled Vinegar, Natural Flavors, Dehydrated Onions, Salt, Dehydrated Garlic, Spices	Fresh Vine-Ripened Tomatoes, Jalapeno Peppers, Distilled Vinegar, Corn Syrup, Dehydrated Onion, Salt, Natural Flavor, Spices, Garlic Powder, Bell Peppers, Modified Food Starch, and Xanthan Gum	
LAST UPDATED				
	8/29/2022	4/5/2022	8/29/2022	

Kosher and Halal Procurement Priorities



Identify kosher and halal products currently available from vendors supplying to USDA Foods

Identify barriers experienced by vendors to increasing kosher and halal certified USDA Foods

Identify the feasibility of kosher and/or halal certification on new products



Team Nutrition Resources





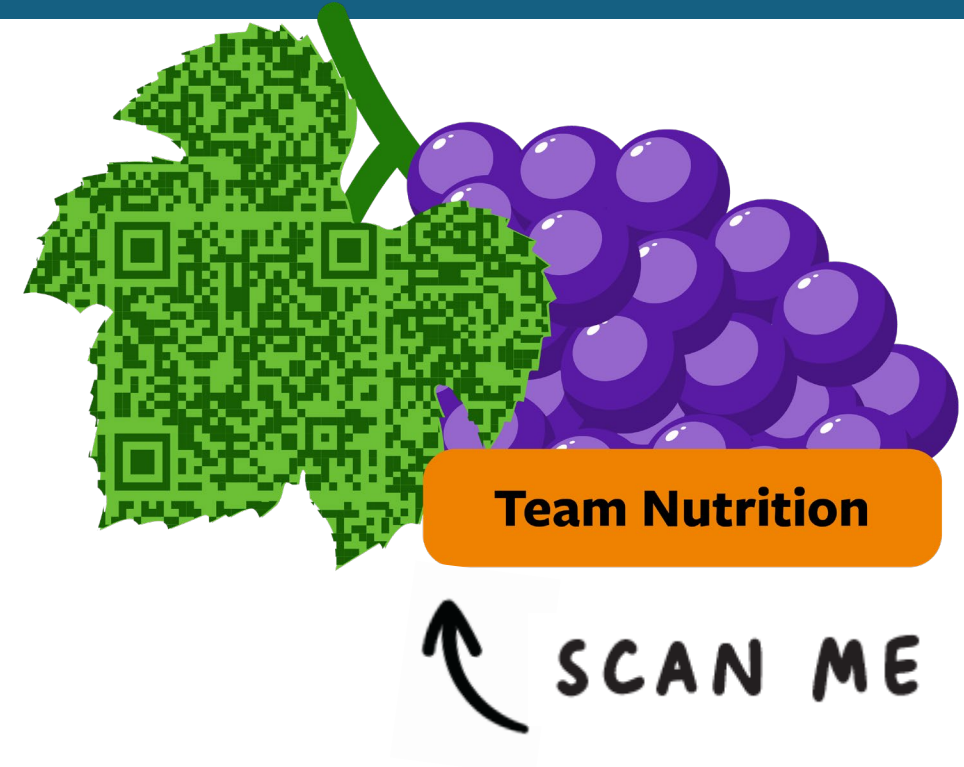
Team Nutrition Resources continued

Menu Planning

USDA Standardized Recipes

Nutrition Education and Promotion

Marketing and Promoting School Meals



TeamNutrition.USDA.gov



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Menu Planner for School Meals

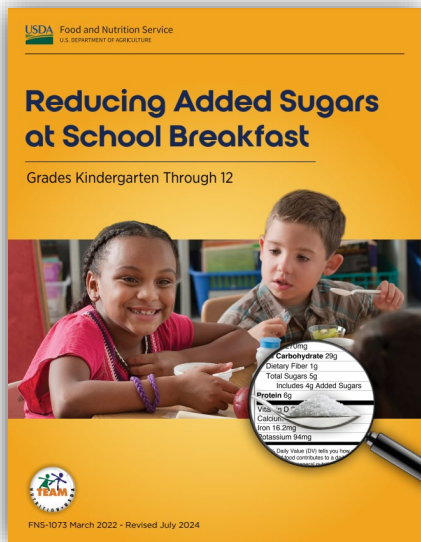
Topics:

- Food-Based Menu Planning and Development
- Meal Preparation Documentation
- Procurement and Inventory Management
- Meal Modifications for Students with Disabilities
- Marketing School Meals
- Food Safety
- And More!



fns.usda.gov/tn/menu-planner

Menu Strategies and Inspiration



Reducing Added Sugars at School Breakfast



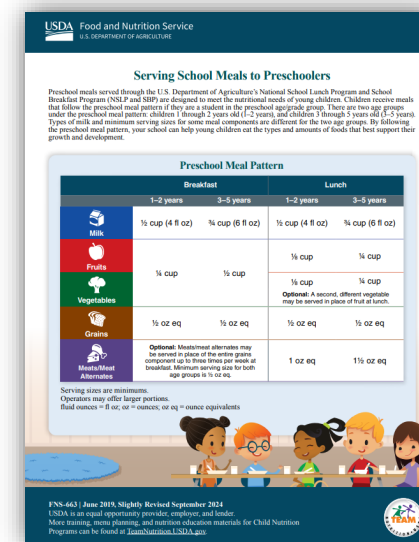
Offering Meat and Meat Alternates at School Breakfast



Whole Grain Resource



Offering Smoothies



Serving School Meals to Preschoolers

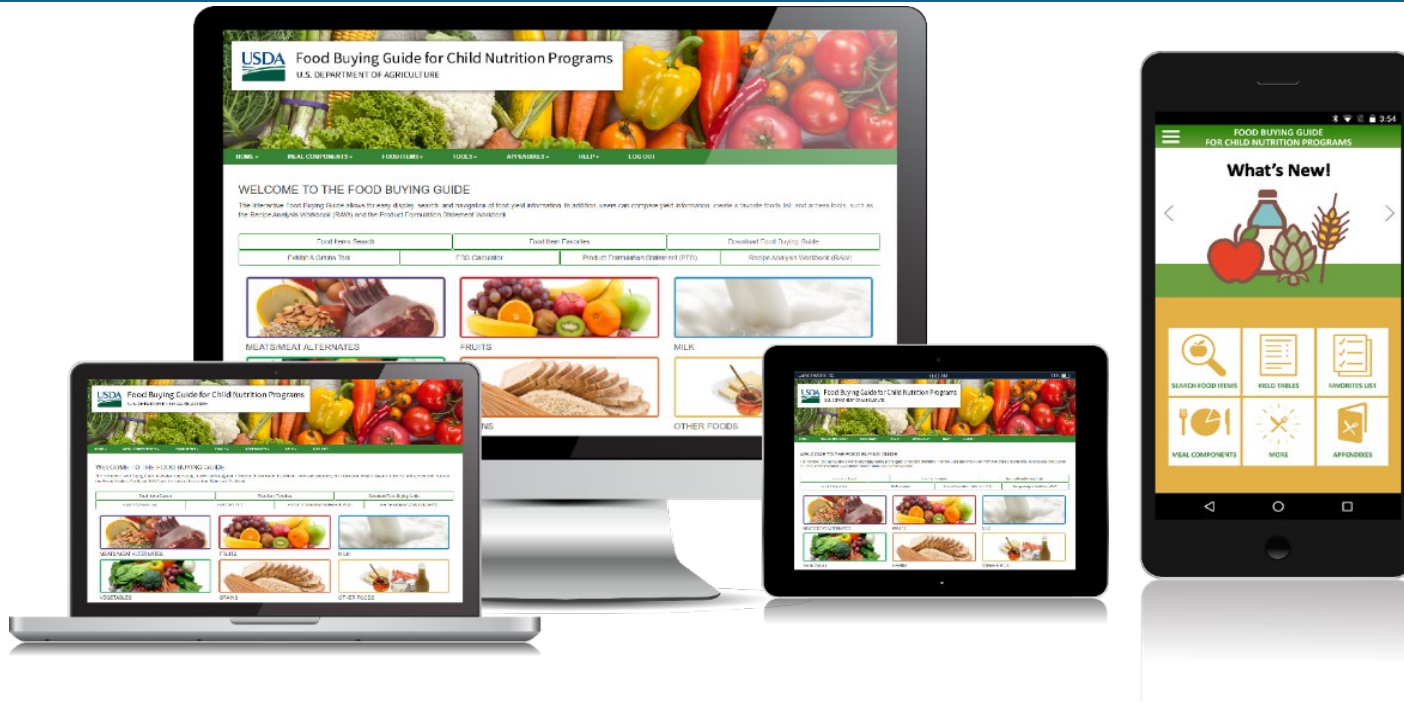


USDA Standardized Recipes

 fns.usda.gov/tn/team-nutrition-recipes



Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs



 fns.usda.gov/tn/fbg

SCAN ME



Crediting Tip Sheets in Child Nutrition Programs

USDA Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Crediting Vegetables in the Child Nutrition Programs
Tip Sheet

Crediting Fluid Milk in the Child Nutrition Programs
Tip Sheet

Crediting Grains in the Child Nutrition Programs
Tip Sheet Part 1: Creditable Grains in Child Nutrition Programs

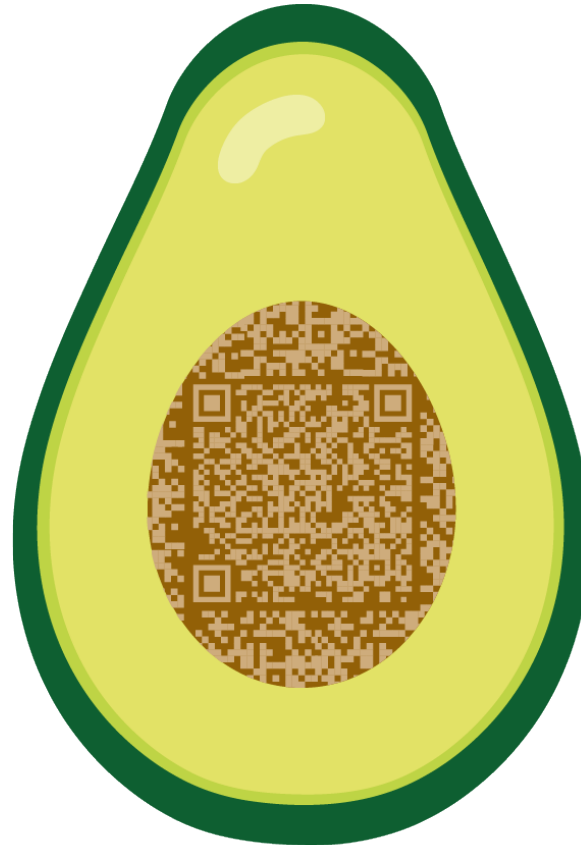
Crediting Grains in the Child Nutrition Programs
Tip Sheet Part 2: Identifying Grain Products That Are Whole Grain-Rich

Crediting Grains in the Child Nutrition Programs
Tip Sheet Part 3: Program Requirements

Crediting Fruits in the Child Nutrition Programs
Tip Sheet

Crediting Meats/Meat Alternates in the Child Nutrition Programs
Tip Sheet

Fruit Requirements



SCAN ME

fns.usda.gov/tn/crediting-tip-sheets-child-nutrition-programs

Culturally Inclusive Recipes Toolkit

Categories

- Preparing and Partnering
- Identifying and Sourcing
- Testing and Standardizing
- Implementing and Marketing
- Evaluating and Expanding

 theicn.org/cirt/



Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative (HMI)



Grants for
Small/Rural
SFAs



Recognition
Awards



School Food System
Transformation
Challenge Sub-Grants



Healthy Meals
Summits

 fns.usda.gov/school-meals/hmi


SCAN ME



1



A program of the
Chef Ann Foundation

Chef Ann Foundation:

- * 8 national projects awarded

2



SCALES
Supporting Community Agriculture
& Local Education Systems

Boise State University

- * 12 national projects awarded
- * **Second round of funding OPEN for applications!**

3



LAKE MICHIGAN
SCHOOL FOOD SYSTEM
INNOVATION HUB

Illinois Public Health Institute

- * 16 regional projects awarded
- * **Second round opportunity in 2025**

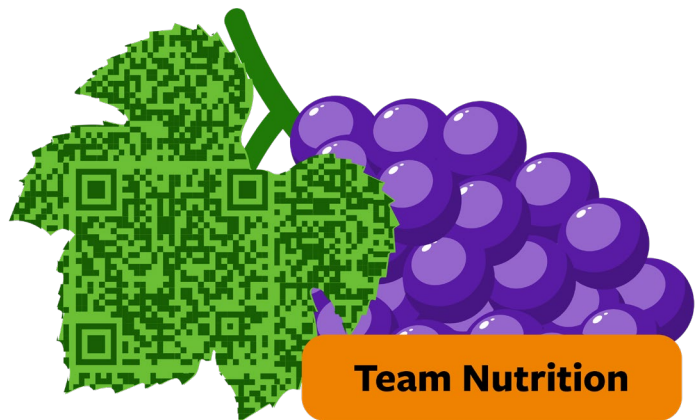
4



Full Plates Full Potential:

- * 7 state projects awarded

Find More Information Here



Team Nutrition



Team Nutrition Print Materials



TeamNutrition@USDA.gov



TeamNutrition.USDA.gov



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This institution is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Ramadan 2025

Statewide non-congregate waivers available



- Ramadan 2025: ~February 28-March 30, 2025
- State agencies may request a State-wide waiver to allow non-congregate meals
- Non-congregate waivers allow Program operators to offer meals that fasting participants can take off-site and consume at a time that honors their religious principles



Questions



Please reach out to
FNS.External.Affairs@usda.gov
with any questions you may
have.



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