

Welcome

BACK TO SCHOOL!

2026 - 2027



Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! Nothing signals the start of a new school year quite like seeing our cafeterias filled with smiling students and dedicated staff. We are thrilled to welcome everyone back and look forward to another year of serving nutritious meals that help students learn and thrive. Don't forget to share your first-day and back-to-school cafeteria pictures with us using [#BreakforaPlateAlabama](#) so we can highlight the amazing work taking place throughout the state!

#BreakforaPlateAlabama

As we begin another year of serving healthy meals to students across Alabama, please review the important reminders, training opportunities, and key dates below.

New Program Year Reminders:

- Revise your Annual Agreement as school schedules and meal service times are finalized. Be sure to submit snack meal service for approval before afterschool programs begin.
- Ensure all Point-of-Sale updates have been made, including new student data and any pricing updates (student, adult, and a la carte).
- Maintain accurate records of all staff professional development activities and ensure [USDA Professional Standards codes](#) are assigned to each training session. During the program year, directors must complete 12 training hours, managers 10 hours, and staff 6 hours.
- Be sure food permits are posted at each kitchen site and that your local health department has plans to visit each school site twice during the program year.
- Confirm that service, delivery, and pricing on recently bid items are consistent with awarded contract terms and expectations.

Upcoming Training Opportunities:

[Administrative Review Training](#)

Tuesday, August 18 – Wednesday, August 19
Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, AL

[New Directors Training](#)

Thursday, August 20 – Friday, August 21
Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, AL

[RCCI and Private Schools Financial Training](#)

Friday, August 21
Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, AL

ALSDE Fall Directors Conference

Tuesday, November 17 – Friday, November 20
The Grand Hotel, Point Clear, AL
Registration will be opening soon!

Ongoing Program Resources:

[Table Talk](#) – Make plans to join the monthly webinar with ALSDE staff to hear program updates, guidance, and timely reminders.

Upcoming dates: August 27, September 24, October 29

[SWP Help Documents](#) – Wondering how to keep up with all things related to our statewide bid? Use the link above to access continually updated resources!

[Break for a Plate](#) – Training presentations are uploaded throughout the year in the “School News” section toward the bottom of the homepage. When you need a refresher or when staff needs training, use these as a resource.

As we begin the 2026-2027 school year, remember that the Child Nutrition team is here to help. For questions regarding program operations, training, procurement, or compliance, contact your Education Specialist, Financial Specialist or the Alabama State Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs Office at cnpnslp@alsde.edu or (334) 694-4657.

