



TABLE

TALK



Alabama State Department of Education
Child Nutrition Programs

VOLUME 004
ISSUE 010
June 27, 2025

WEBEX RECORDING

Click [here](#) to access the Webex recording.

OVERVIEW

- LINQ Web Address
- CEP Election
- PLE Exemption
- Smart Snack Attestation
- Exempt Fundraisers
- 2025-2026 Free and Reduced Meal Applications

Reviews and Reminders

Monthly Memos

- ALSDE
- USDA

- LINQ Reminders
- Site Level Attendance Factor
- FFVP Updates
- Culinary Training Recap
- SFI Course
- Coffee Guidance
- Dietary Changes
- SunBucks

Top Topics

Training Tidbits

- Training Dates

- THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS!

Sponsor Spotlight

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

SUZANNAH YODER

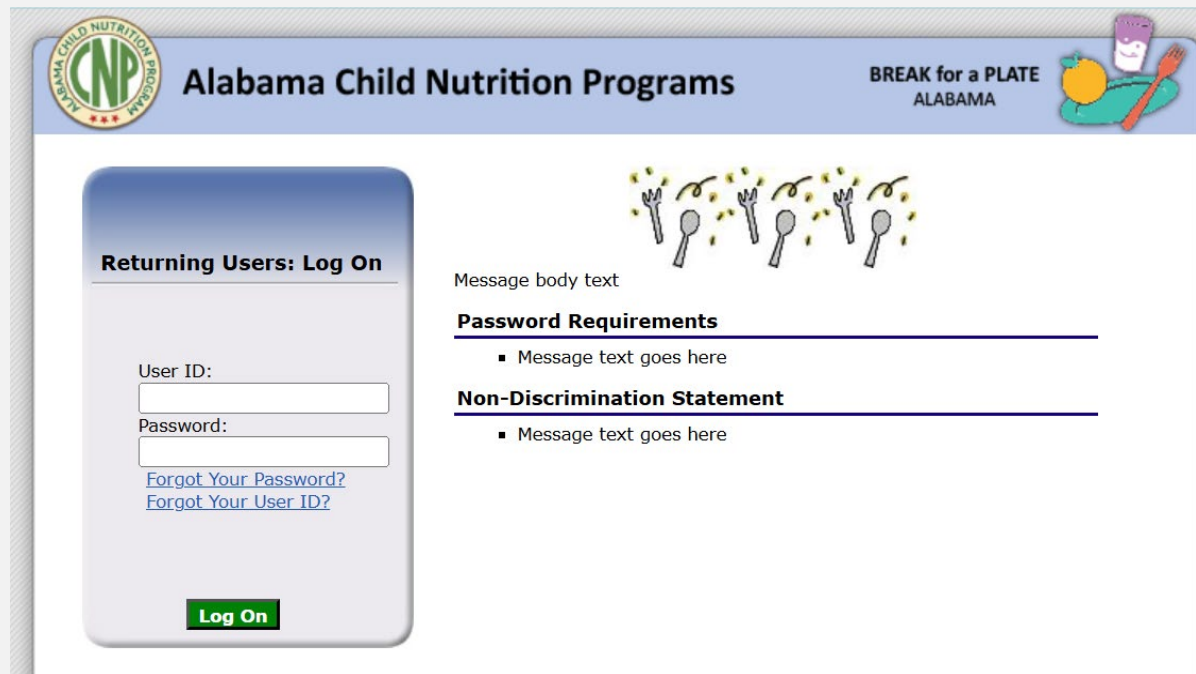
TABLE TALK

VOLUME 004 · ISSUE 010 · ALABAMA CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

Be sure that you have bookmarked the correct web address for the LINQ application:

<https://alsde.cnpus.com/prod/Splash.aspx>



Alabama Child Nutrition Programs

BREAK for a PLATE
ALABAMA

Returning Users: Log On

User ID:

Password:

[Forgot Your Password?](#)
[Forgot Your User ID?](#)

Log On

Message body text

Password Requirements

- Message text goes here

Non-Discrimination Statement

- Message text goes here

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

SY 2025-2026 CEP Election Due JUNE 30, 2025

All SFAs must submit their decision for CEP participation in the old online application system.



Program Year: 2026 [July 2025 - June 2026]		Change Program Year : 2026 ▾	Revision: 0
CEP: Community Eligibility Provision Current Approved Base Year: 2025			
1. Does this sponsor wish to Participate in the Community Eligibility Provision?	☒ Yes ☐ No		
Choose the DC % Base Program year	2025 ▾		
CEP Comment	not reestablishing a new base year at this time		

E-mail with instructions sent May 19, 2025.

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

PLE EXEMPTIONS DUE 6/30/25

For SY 2025-2026, SFAs with a positive or zero balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2024, are exempt from PLE pricing requirements.

For SFAs that do not qualify for this exemption, a detailed memo was emailed on 6/23/2025 with instructions for completion.



[PLE Exemption Form](#)

Email sent on Thursday, May 8, 2025

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

[Smart Snack Attestation Statement](#), signed by your superintendent, should be obtained by July 1. This document should stay in your local files.

Each school's initial Exempt Fundraising Report should be signed by local administrators and collected by July 1.



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS



BREAK for a PLATE
ALABAMA

HomeCommunity (Food Distribution)Care CentersSchoolsSummer | News

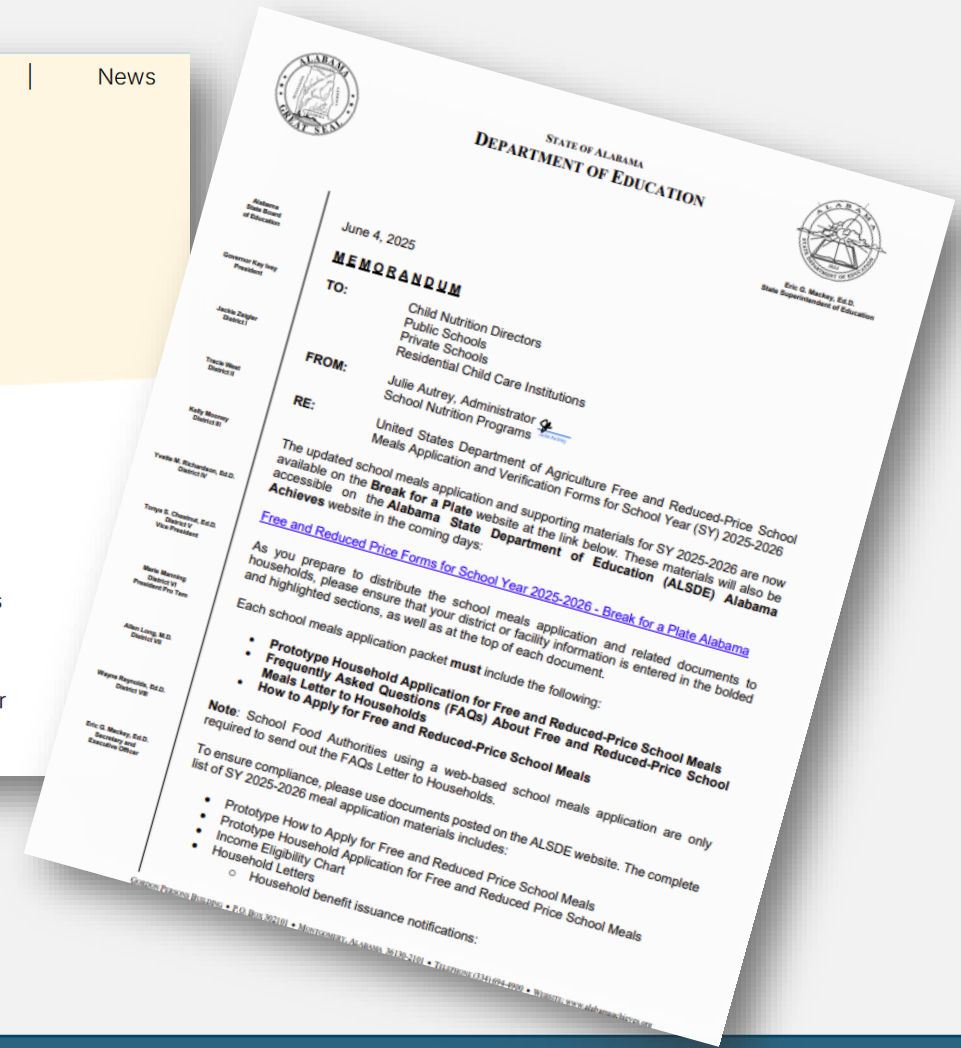
NEWS

Free and Reduced Price Forms for School Year 2025-2026

The updated school meals application, supporting materials, and Free and Reduced Price webinar for School Year 2025-2026 is now available. Please use the links below to access the latest information.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact the School Nutrition Program staff at cnpslp@alsde.edu or by phone at (334) 694-4657.

<https://www.breakforaplate.com/free-and-reduced-price-forms-for-school-year-2025-2026/>



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

FREE AND REDUCED FORMS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2025-2026

AL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS-
2025-2026 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

AL PROTOTYPE APPLICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS-SY25-26

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS SY 25-26

AL HOUSEHOLD LETTERS-SY25-26

PUBLIC RELEASE

AL PUBLIC RELEASE CEP PARTIAL DISTRICT-SY25-26

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-CEP DISTRICT WIDE-SY25-26

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-CEP TO PROVISION 2-SY25-26

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-PROVISION 2 DELAYED IMPLEMENTATION-SY25-26

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-PROVISION 2-SY25-26

AL PUBLIC RELEASE-SY25-26

Available for distribution after July 1.



MONTHLY MEMOS

CHAD LANGSTON

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MONTHLY MEMOS

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 6/4/25)

- School Year 2025-2026 Free and Reduced-Price School Meals

USDA Memo (emailed to all directors on 6/11/25)

- USDA Memorandums: SP 14-2025 and SP 15-2025

USDA Memo (emailed to all directors on 6/17/25)

- Reminder for School Meal Programs: Updated Nutrition Standards - Implementation by July 1, 2025

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 6/23/25)

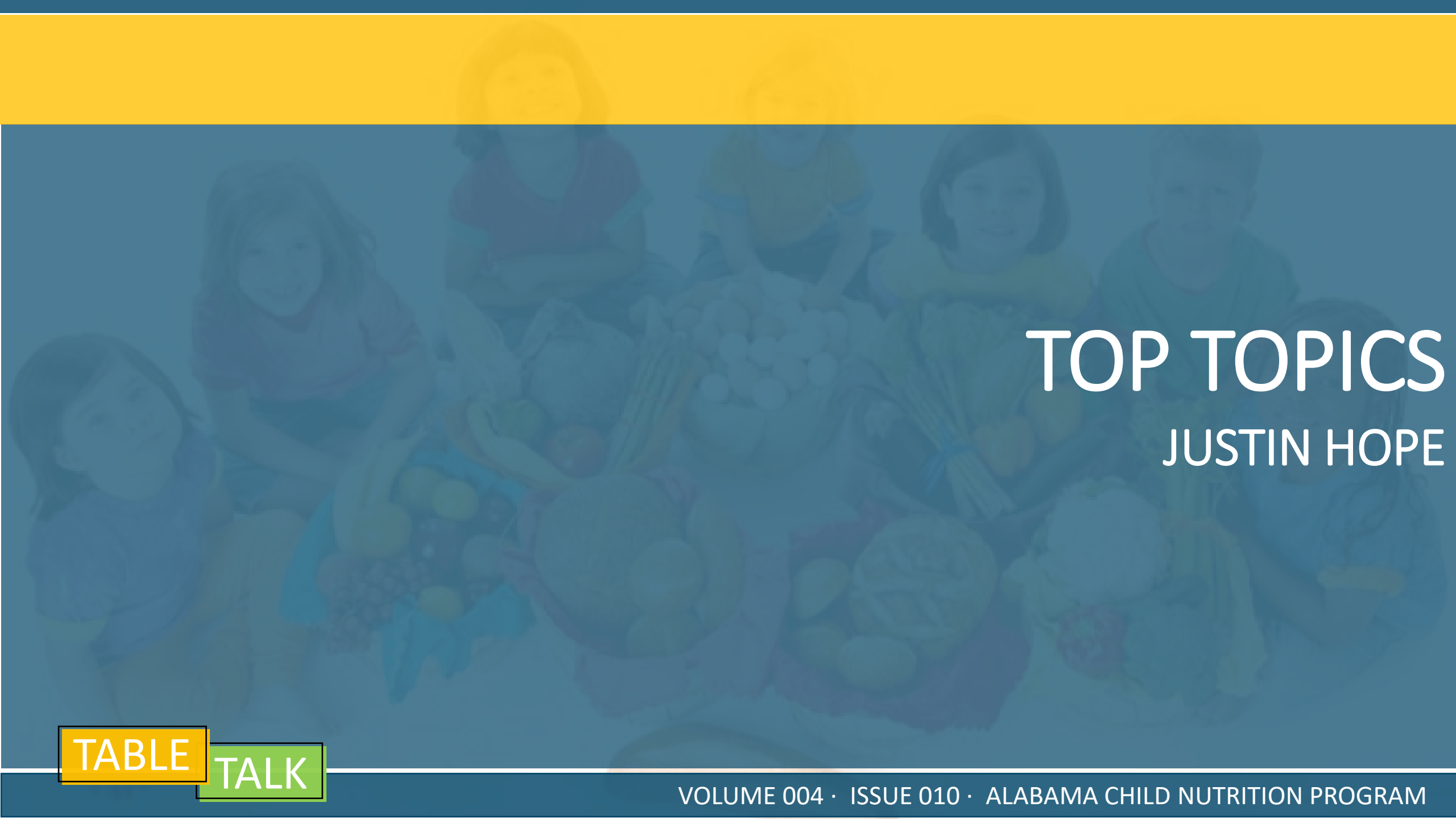
- Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) Tool and Guidance for SY 2025-2026

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 6/24/25)

- Help Shape the Future of School Breakfast Programs

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 6/27/25)

- Updated Coffee Guidance for Coffee in School Meals



TOP TOPICS

JUSTIN HOPE

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LINQ School Nutrition (Titan) *Administrative Reminders*

1. Direct Certification Import- Pause Prior to July 1

A. Utilities

B. Job Scheduler

C. Direct Certification Flat File

- I. Click on the Pencil
- II. Click on check mark beside active to inactivate it.
- III. Click Save

D. Wait until for ALSDE notification of Successful DC Data to restart.

The screenshot displays the 'Job Schedule' window in the LINQ School Nutrition Suite. The window has fields for 'Name' (Direct Certification Flat File), 'Schedule Type' (Data Import Template), and 'Data Import Template' (Direct Certification Flat File). Below these is a 'Schedule' section with a dropdown for 'Every' (Week) and a calendar for 'on' (Sunday). The 'at' field shows a time of 10:00. The 'Source' is set to 'Ftp' and the 'Path' is 'PSDirectCertLunch.txt'. The 'Url' is 'sftp://sftp.titank12.com:22'. Below the window is a table with a 'Run as User' dropdown, an 'Add New ..' button, and a list of jobs. A red circle highlights the 'Active' checkbox in the table. Another red circle highlights the 'Save' button at the bottom right of the table.



Titan to LINQ School Nutrition Transition

JUNE 30

Change this old link ➡ to this new link

1. ~~portal.titank12.com~~

2. ~~pos.titank12.com~~

3. ~~odata.titank12.com~~

4. ~~status.titank12.com~~

1. portal.schoolnutrition.linq.com

2. pos.schoolnutrition.linq.com

3. odata.schoolnutrition.linq.com

4. status.schoolnutrition.linq.com

If you're logging into the new **POS URL** (pos.schoolnutrition.linq.com) for the first time, you'll need to enter your **POS ID**. Here's how to find it:

1. Navigate to your district portal.
2. Go to **Configuration > District > District Management**.
3. Locate the **POS ID** on the **General** tab.
4. Your POS ID is available in both the TITAN and LINQ School Nutrition portals.



LINQ
SCHOOL NUTRITION SUITE

LINQ School Nutrition

SFTP Server Changes for DC Files

1. Change URL

- OLD
sftp.titank12.com:22
- NEW
sftp.schoolnutrition.linq.com

**** This change must also be completed in the Remote Connection Manager in PowerSchool by your IT Department/ PowerSchool Admin.**



Account Manager Changes



Districts with > 4000 Students

Jessica Cline

803-784-4223

jcline@LINQ.com

Districts with < 4000 Students

Charles Simon

813-575-2145

csimon@LINQ.com

NOTE: Scott Ulrich is no longer working with Alabama accounts.



TOP TOPICS

SUZANNAH YODER

TABLE TALK

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Site Level Attendance Factor

1

2

3

4

5

048-0000

Choose Program Year 2025 ▾

Choose Month ▾

Choose Report Site Meal Master Summary for Program Year ▾

view Report

Site Meal Master Summary for Program Year (From Latest Approved Site Data Sheets)

As of 6/11/2025 1:41:41 PM

Group by: Site Name ▾

Collapse All Rows

Expand All Rows

Export to XLS

#	Month No	Month	Site Code	Type	City	Cent Kitchen	Dining Loc	Claim Loc	SafetyNet	SN
Site Name: Asbury Elementary										
	416	August, 2024	048-0035	Public	Albertville	048-0030	048-0030	048-0030	SafetyNet	SN
	417	September, 2024	048-0035	Public	Albertville	048-0030	048-0030	048-0030	SafetyNet	SN
	418	October, 2024	048-0035	Public	Albertville	048-0030	048-0030	048-0030	SafetyNet	SN
	419	November, 2024	048-0035	Public	Albertville	048-0030	048-0030	048-0030	SafetyNet	SN

Site Level Attendance Factor

gvAnnualMasterSummary - Compatibility M... • Saved to this PC

File Home Insert Draw Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Automate Developer Help

Site Code

CS	CT	CU	Fr Abs
total \$\$	Licenses	Day Students	
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
0	0	0	96
131674.96	0	0	96
148127.76	0	0	96
139720.22	0	0	96
116930.42	0	0	96
96773.42	0	0	96
126770.01	0	0	96
135345.45	0	0	96
113257.7	0	0	96
150375.53	0	0	96
90176.42	0	0	96
24475.28	0	0	96
29816.6	0	0	96
27425.84	0	0	96

Sheet

High School		
415	July, 2024	0
416	August, 2024	96
417	September, 2024	96
418	October, 2024	96
419	November, 2024	96
420	December, 2024	93
421	January, 2025	95
422	February, 2025	96
423	March, 2025	93
424	April, 2025	94
425	May, 2025	89
Primary School		
416	August, 2024	96
417	September, 2024	96
418	October, 2024	96
419	November, 2024	96
420	December, 2024	96
421	January, 2025	96
422	February, 2025	96
423	March, 2025	96
424	April, 2025	96
425	May, 2025	96

Highlight all the cells from that site.

Average: 94 Count: 10 Sum: 944



TOP TOPICS

DEVIN WILLIAMSON

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FFVP Updates

- 148 schools will participate in SY 25-26 (↑11 schools from SY 24-25)
- FY 26 Award: \$4,211,551 (↑\$184,116 from SY 24-25)
- Districts will be notified in July of award amount
- All applicants should anticipate receiving the grant
- In SY 25-26, recipients are expected to spend at least 90% of funds for renewal to the program



Culinary Training Recap



Breakfast Recipes:

- Egg Bites
- Peach Sheet Pancake
- Roasted Peach Oatmeal
- Peachy Keen Green Smoothie

Lunch Recipes:

- Chicken Gumbo
- Sheet Pan Shawarma with Roasted Red Pepper Aoli
- Sweet & Smokey Beef Sliders
- Ground Beef Burrito Bowl

Spice Blends:

- Kickin' Cajun
- Shawarma Spice
- Sweet & Smokey
- Pie Spice

Upcoming Culinary Trainings

Summer Culinary Training from the Chef Ann Foundation

8:30 AM-3:00 PM; 6 CEUs

To register, email Devin at devin.williamson@alsde.edu

Location & Parking Information

Seats Available		
Date	City/County	Seats Remaining
July 8th	Andalusia/Covington	5
July 9th	Gulf Shores/Baldwin	1
July 10th	University Charter/Sumter	1
July 24th	Haleyville/Winston	3
July 25th	Priceville/Morgan	3

Full Classes: WAITLIST available	
Date	City/County
July 7th	Greenville/Butler
July 12th	Demopolis/Marengo
July 21st	Salem/Lee County
July 22nd	Pell City/St. Clair
July 23rd	Restoration Academy/Jefferson

SFI Course Reminder

School Food Institute from the Chef Ann Foundation

- To date, only 13 participants have completed their course
- Courses are due by September 30th, 2025
- Make sure your staff do not skip "Course Introduction", it is crucial to know how to navigate the platform

Salad Bars in Schools



Hours: 2/Hrs
Cost: \$99

USDA Key Areas:

- 1000 Nutrition
- 2000 Operations
- 3000 Administration
- 4000 Communications and Marketing

[View Course Preview](#)

\$99.00
[Add to cart](#)

[More Info >](#)

Marketing and Lunchroom Education



Hours: 2/Hrs
Cost: \$99

USDA Key Areas:

- 1000 Nutrition
- 4000 Communications and Marketing

[View Course Preview](#)

\$99.00
[Add to cart](#)

[More Info >](#)

Updated Coffee Guidance

Further clarification has been received from the USDA; we have clarified in our guidance:

- Both caffeinated and decaffeinated coffee are **not allowed** in **grades K-8** as part of a reimbursable meal or a la carte.
- Coffee flavored milk containing coffee and clearly labeled “flavored milk” on the product label are allowable for grades 9-12 but not for K-8.

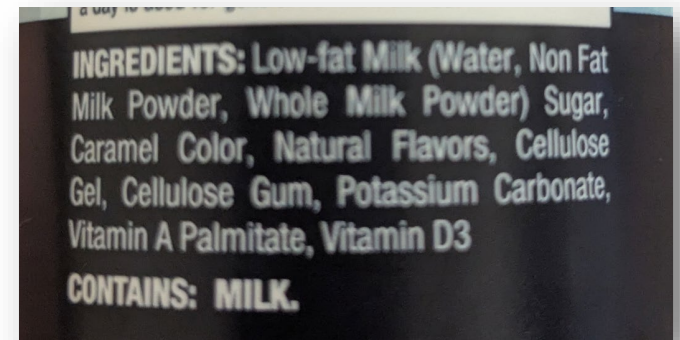


Because it is labeled as a vanilla latte, it is not reimbursable and would need to meet Smart Snack standards for “other flavored and/or carbonated beverages” in the [Smart Snacks Products Calculator](#). **This product does not meet smart snack guidelines.**

Updated Coffee Guidance

Further clarification has been received from the USDA; we have clarified in our guidance:

- Coffee flavored milk clearly labeled “flavored milk” that mimics the taste of coffee but contains no actual coffee is allowed for **all grade levels**.

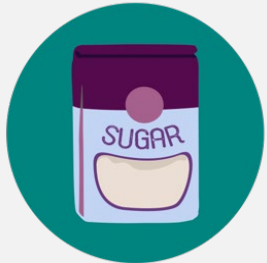


TOP TOPICS

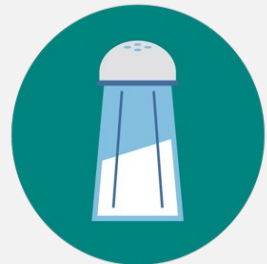
RACHEL FOWLER

TABLE
TALK

TOP TOPICS: Upcoming Changes



By SY27-28, schools must limit added sugars to less than 10% of calories per week at breakfast and lunch.



Beginning in SY27-28, Decreasing Sodium Limits

School Breakfast Program Sodium Limits

Age/Grade Group	Current Sodium Limit: In place through June 30, 2027	Sodium Limit: Must be implemented by July 1, 2027
Grades K-5	≤ 540 mg	≤ 485 mg
Grades 6-8	≤ 600 mg	≤ 535 mg
Grades 9-12	≤ 640 mg	≤ 570 mg

Product Based Limits

This new regulation disallows specific foods regardless of the rest of the menu:
RTE Cereal, Milk, Yogurt

VS.

Limits to Menus

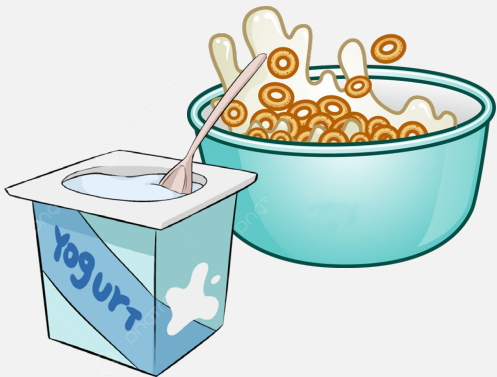
Many foods high in sodium or calories due to added sugars are allowable as part of a compliant menu because they are offset with lower calorie/lower sodium items.

SY25-26

Breakfast Cereals: no more than 6 grams of added sugars per dry ounce.

Yogurt: no more than 12 grams of added sugars per 6 ounces

Flavored Milk: no more that 10 grams of added sugar per 8 fluid ounces



TOP TOPICS

Added Sugar Limits: New for SY 2025-2026

Concentrated carbohydrates added to processed foods:

- Sugar
- Syrup
- X-ose ingredients like sucrose, fructose, dextrose
- Honey
- Concentrated fruit juice
- Maltodextrin

Very high ratio of calories/nutrients

Nutrition Facts	
About 6 servings per container	
Serving size	1 cup (59g)
Amount per serving	
Calories	220
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 3g	4%
Saturated Fat 0g	0%
Trans Fat 0g	
Polyunsaturated Fat 1g	
Monounsaturated Fat 1.5g	
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 210mg	9%
Total Carbohydrate 47g	17%
Dietary Fiber 4g	13%
Total Sugars 14g	
Incl. 13g Added Sugars	26%
Protein 4g	
Vitamin D 2mcg	10%
Calcium 20mg	0%
Iron 2.7mg	15%
Potassium 140mg	4%
Vitamin A	30%
Thiamin	30%
Riboflavin	30%
Niacin	30%
Vitamin B ₆	30%
Folate 200mcg DFE (120mcg folic acid)	50%
Vitamin B ₁₂	50%
Phosphorus	8%
Magnesium	8%
Zinc	15%
* The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.	

Flavored Milk (Max is 10grams/8oz.)

Product	Fluid Ounces	Added Sugar
• Shelf Stable Chocolate Milk WF	8 oz	11 grams
• Tru Moo Fat Free Chocolate	8 oz	7 grams
• Borden Fat Free Chocolate	8 oz	6 grams
• Tru Moo Fat Free Strawberry	8 oz	7 grams
• Prairie Farms Fat Free Strawberry	8 oz	14.9 grams

Brands vary! Consider including sugar limits to your milk bid specifications.

Don't forget coffee-flavored milk/Moo-Brew now has added sugar limits (15 grams/12 oz serving)

Yogurt(Max is 12grams/6oz OR 2grams/1oz.)

ITEM	Serving Size	Added Sugar
• Raspberry Cherry	4 oz	6 grams
• Strawberry Vanilla	4 oz	5 grams
• Strawberry (bulk)	2/3 cup = 5.76 oz	17 grams
• Vanilla (bulk)	2/3 cup = 5.76 oz	17 grams
• Strawberry go-gurt	2 oz	6 g =18 g per 6oz/3g/ounce
• Mixed Berry go-gurt	2 oz	3 grams
• Blueberry (bulk)	2/3 cup = 5.76 oz	16 grams

Ready to Eat Cereal (Max is 6grams/1oz)

Product	Pack size	Grain Equivalent	Added Sugar
Cinnamon Toast Crunch	1 OZ	10Z	6 g
Fruit Loops	1 OZ	10Z	8 g
Trix	1 OZ	10Z	6 g
Golden grahams	1 OZ	10Z	9 g
Frosted Flakes	1 OZ	10Z	7 g
Cheerios Plain	1 OZ	10Z	1 g
Cinnamon Chex	2 OZ	20Z	12 g
Apple Jacks	1 OZ	10Z	8 g
granola, Single Packets	1 OZ	10Z	0 g
Cinnamon Toast Crunch	2 OZ	20Z	11 g
Cocoa Puffs	2 OZ	20Z	15 g
Honey Nut Cheerios Cereal	2 OZ	20Z	19 g
Lucky Charms	2 OZ	20Z	12 g
Honey Cheerios	2 OZ	20Z	12 g
Blueberry Chex	2 OZ	20Z	12 g

TOP TOPICS: Grain Based Desserts

 An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#) ✓



Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs Interactive Web-Based Tool

The interactive Food Buying Guide allows for easy searching, navigating, and displaying of content. In addition, users can compare yield information, create a favorite foods list, and access tools, such as:

- FBG Calculator
- **Exhibit A Grains Tool**
- Download Food Buying Guide
- Recipe Analysis Workbook (RAW), and
- Product Formulation Statement (PFS) Workbook.

Create a profile in order to save the following: food items in your Favorites list, shopping lists created by the FBG Calculator, analyzed recipes using the RAW, and Product Formulation Statements.

PLEASE NOTE: A USDA eAuthentication or Login.gov account is needed to access the tool. New and existing users who have either of the accounts can proceed to the Tool by clicking on the 'Login or Create a Profile' button.

If you do not have a USDA eAuthentication account or a Login.gov account, go to [Create Account](#) and you will be directed to create a Login.gov account. You will immediately receive an email with a link to activate your account with one simple click.

[Food Buying Guide](#) [Exhibit A Grains Tool](#)

Exhibit A: Grain Requirements For Child Nutrition Programs^{1, 2}
Color Key: Footnote 5 = Blue, Footnote 3 or 4 = Red

Food Products per Group	Ounce Equivalent (oz eq)	Minimum Serving Size
Group A	Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group A	Minimum Serving Size for Group A
Bread type coating	1 oz eq = 22 gm or 0.8 oz	1 serving = 20 gm or 0.7 oz
Bread sticks (hard)	¾ oz eq = 17 gm or 0.6 oz	¾ serving = 15 gm or 0.5 oz
Chow Mein noodles	½ oz eq = 11 gm or 0.4 oz	½ serving = 10 gm or 0.4 oz
Savory Crackers (saltines and snack crackers)	¼ oz eq = 6 gm or 0.2 oz	¼ serving = 5 gm or 0.2 oz
CROUTONS		
Pretzels (hard)		
Stuffing (dry) Note: weights apply to bread in stuffing		
Group B	Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group B	Minimum Serving Size for Group B
Bagels	1 oz eq = 28 gm or 1.0 oz	1 serving = 25 gm or 0.9 oz
Batter type coating	¾ oz eq = 21 gm or 0.75 oz	¾ serving = 19 gm or 0.7 oz
Biscuits	½ oz eq = 14 gm or 0.5 oz	½ serving = 13 gm or 0.5 oz
Breads - all (for example sliced, French, Italian)	¼ oz eq = 7 gm or 0.25 oz	¼ serving = 6 gm or 0.2 oz
Buns (hamburger and hot dog)		
Sweet Crackers ⁵ (graham crackers - all shapes, animal crackers)		
Egg roll skins		
English muffins		
Pita bread		
Pizza crust		
Pretzels (soft)		
Rolls		
Tortillas		
Tortilla chips		
Taco shells		
Group C	Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group C	Minimum Serving Size for Group C
Cookies ³ (plain - includes vanilla wafers)	1 oz eq = 34 gm or 1.2 oz	1 serving = 31 gm or 1.1 oz
Cornbread	¾ oz eq = 26 gm or 0.9 oz	¾ serving = 23 gm or 0.8 oz
Corn muffins	½ oz eq = 17 gm or 0.6 oz	½ serving = 16 gm or 0.6 oz
Croissants	¼ oz eq = 9 gm or 0.3 oz	¼ serving = 8 gm or 0.3 oz
Pancakes		
Pie crust (dessert pies ⁴ , cobbler ⁴ , fruit turnovers ⁴ , and meats/meat alternate pies)		
Waffles		
Group D	Ounce Equivalent (oz eq) for Group D	Minimum Serving Size for Group D
Doughnuts ⁴ (cake and yeast raised, unfrosted)	1 oz eq = 55 gm or 2.0 oz	1 serving = 50 gm or 1.8 oz
Cereal bars, breakfast bars, granola bars ⁴ (plain)	¾ oz eq = 42 gm or 1.5 oz	¾ serving = 38 gm or 1.3 oz
Muffins (all, except corn)	½ oz eq = 28 gm or 1.0 oz	½ serving = 25 gm or 0.9 oz
Sweet roll ⁴ (unfrosted)	¼ oz eq = 14 gm or 0.5 oz	¼ serving = 13 gm or 0.5 oz
Toaster pastry ⁴ (unfrosted)		

¹ In the NSLP, SBP (grades K-12), and NSLP afterschool snacks (effective July 1, 2025), at least 80 percent of the weekly grains offered must meet the whole grain-rich criteria and the remaining grain items offered must be made from whole-grain flour, whole-grain meal, corn masa, masa harina, hominy, enriched flour, enriched meal, bran, germ, or be an enriched product, such as enriched bread, or a fortified cereal. Please note: State agencies have the discretion to set stricter requirements than the minimum nutrition standards for school meals. For additional guidance, please contact your State agency. For all other Child Nutrition Programs, grains must be made from whole-grain flour, whole-grain

Except for product based exceptions for cereal, milk and yogurt, grain-based desserts are allowed at lunch. (up to 2 oz. per week)

#3 Desserts: not allowed at breakfast or snack

#4 Desserts: allowed at breakfast but NOT snack

#5 Desserts: allowed in all programs



#3 Desserts

- Limited to 2oz/week
- LUNCH Only

“Classic” Desserts

- Cake
- Cookies (including vanilla wafers)
- Cobbler
- Pie
- Brownies



#4 Desserts

- Not allowed for snack or preschool meals, limited to 2oz/week at lunch)

- Donuts
- Poptarts
- Cinnamon/Sweet Rolls
- Honeybuns
- Cereal/Granola Bars
- Breakfast Bars



#5 Desserts

- Allowed at snack
- Limited to 2oz/week at lunch



- Graham Crackers
- Chocolate Grahams

Stay Tuned!

- Afterschool Snack
Allowable Grain list from SWP bids including menu ideas will be sent out via constant contact



TOP TOPICS

LORIA HUNTER

TABLE TALK

VOLUME 004 · ISSUE 010 · ALABAMA CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

Alabama SUN Bucks



457,219 Streamlined Cases

43,396 Applications Received (online and paper)

91.72% Eligible through Streamlined Cases

481 Cases that Opted Out



SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

Fraud Reduction Measure
Initial Benefit Issuance – Delayed
Issued – June 6th
Available – June 8th
Call center received 25,000+ calls
Application Processing – benefits
issued immediately





Recommendation - Lock SUN Bucks Card –
www.connectebt.com OR Connect EBT App
Use Benefits Immediately
Benefits good for 122 DAYS

Stolen Benefits – Cannot be replaced





Outreach -No Kid Hungry
Internet ads running in 12 areas
Billboard Buys in High Population
Centers - Mobile, Bham
Montgomery, Huntsville
Target CEP Schools w/Lower ISP





Fact Sheet for School Staff

Alabama launches the first summer of SUN Bucks!

The SUN Bucks food support program provides grocery benefits to families with school-aged children in our community. This important program is expected to help over 500,000 kids in Alabama get access to healthy food this summer!

But, a lot of families still don't know that they're eligible for this support, which is why we're calling on trusted community members (like you!) to help get the word out about SUN Bucks. This partnership is crucial to making sure no child goes hungry over the summer break.

How does SUN Bucks work?

Here are the basics. We'll also provide a simple timeline and sample messaging to help you and other trusted community members get the word out. You're not in this alone!

- SUN Bucks is for school-aged children in households that are at or under 185% of federal poverty guidelines.
- Families receive \$120 per eligible school-aged child for groceries, and the benefit is delivered on a new Alabama SUN Bucks card with the child's name on it.
- Most eligible families will be automatically enrolled, but some will need to apply at www.alabama-sunbucks.com.
- We want to work together to help these families understand, sign up, and access their SUN Bucks benefits.
- Families can check to see if they need to apply or if they are receiving SUN Bucks automatically.

You can help spread the word!

Your support and guidance to families about SUN Bucks will help your students receive the food they need this summer. We'll provide sample emails or social media messages that you can use to help keep your community informed!



School Staff



Alabama SUN Bucks is here!

Are you already signed up?

This program provides \$120 of extra grocery benefits to families with school-aged children (like yours!) in our community over the summer.

This important program is expected to help over 500,000 kids in Alabama get access to healthy food this year.

Check to see if you're eligible for SUN Bucks:

If your student is getting SNAP, TANF, Medicaid through the school demonstration project, Foster Care, or is identified by their school as homeless, migrant or runaway, they'll be automatically enrolled.

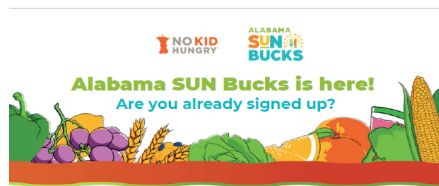
If not, and your family could use food support, you'll need to apply. You can quickly check your eligibility using this QR code or at www.alabama-sunbucks.com.

1 If you're eligible, you can sign up online at www.alabama-sunbucks.com or complete a paper application (available for download at www.alabama-sunbucks.com).

Over the summer, keep an eye out for an eligibility letter and a new SUN Bucks card in the mail. And hold onto your card—eligible families will receive benefits on the same card next summer! If you have questions, email support@alabama-sunbucks.com or call 1-800-443-3536.



CEP Schools



Alabama SUN Bucks is here!

Are you already signed up?

This program provides \$120 of extra grocery benefits to families with school-aged children (like yours!) in our community over the summer.

This important program is expected to help over 500,000 kids in Alabama get access to healthy food this year.

1 If you've already received your Alabama SUN Bucks card with your child's name on it in the mail, activate the card, and start using your card to shop for healthy and delicious food once the benefits load!

2 If you weren't automatically enrolled in the program, you can check your eligibility, apply, and learn more at www.alabama-sunbucks.com.

For families that receive SUN Bucks cards this year, hold onto your cards! Eligible families will receive benefits on the same card next summer. If you have questions, email support@alabama-sunbucks.com or call 1-800-443-3536 for support in English and Spanish.

Have a great summer!



Non-CEP Schools



[Alabama School Guide to SUN Bucks | No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices](#)

Robocall/text language, template emails, template newsletter blurbs

[Alabama English and Spanish Social Media Content - SUN Bucks | No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices](#)

Sample social media content and captions



TRAINING TIDBITS

SUZANNAH YODER



TRAINING TIDBITS

EVENT	DATE	TRAINING	LOCATION	AREA
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TRAINING	August 12 – 13, 2025	AR Training	Gordon Persons Building Auditorium	Montgomery, AL
NEW DIRECTORS TRAINING	August 18 – 22, 2025	New Directors	ALSDE Birmingham Office 1800 International Park Dr., Suite 400 Birmingham, Al 35243	Birmingham, AL
FALL CONFERENCE	November 11 – 14, 2025	Fall Conference	The Grand Hotel Resort and Conference Center	Point Clear, AL



That's a wrap for School Year 2024-2025!

★ Your ALSDE school program staff is thankful for another great year of school foodservice in Alabama!



Thank you specifically for:

- Buying in to our approach to be regionally accessible with our new staff.
- Working alongside us as we power through the transition with our application and claiming platforms.
- Asking tough questions that require extensive research to find answers.
- Being creative with how you meet the needs of your students.
- Your willingness to purchase and prepare fresh foods that support our Alabama farmers.
- Asking "Why?" or "How?" when we need to be clearer in our guidance.
- Embracing the new professionals in our group and mentoring them through their first year.
- Collectively providing over **83.3 million lunches** and **46.0 million breakfasts** to Alabama students this year!



Ask Us

Thank you for attending!

Be sure to document your attendance by completing the survey.

Scan the QR code

<https://forms.office.com/r/Fjcmjr3Eu0>

