



TABLE

TALK



Alabama State Department of Education
Child Nutrition Programs

VOLUME 004
ISSUE 009
May 29, 2025

CLICK [HERE](#) TO ACCESS THE WEBEX RECORDING.

OVERVIEW





REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

ROBBIE SCOTT

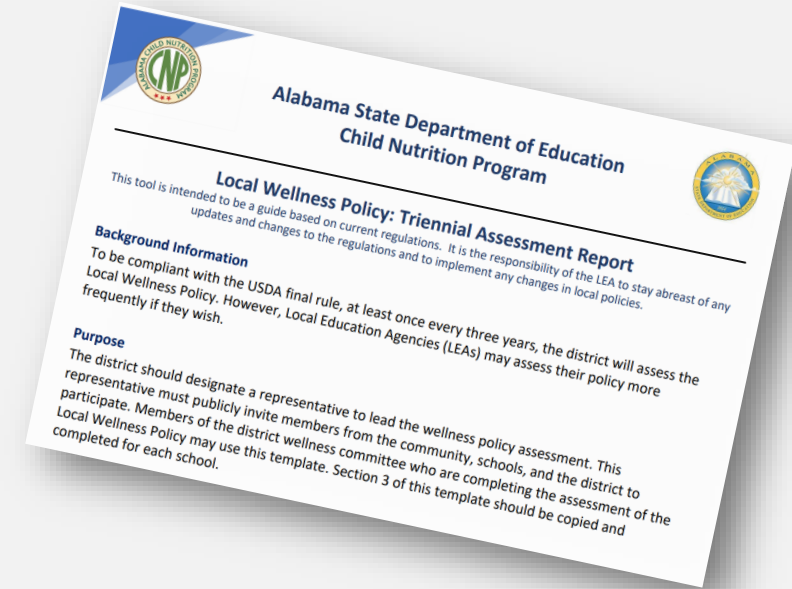
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REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment

- Assessment of the LEA's Wellness Policy must be conducted every three years.
- Once conducted, the results of the assessment should be made available to the public.
- Reminder – a complete assessment includes the following **three** areas:
 1. Comparison to a model policy
 2. Measured progress the district is making toward stated goals
 3. Reports of school level compliance with the policy



Click here for a [Triennial Assessment Template](#) (also available on Alabama Achieves).



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

SFSP Outreach – Summer Meals Site Finder

- School food authorities must cooperate with Summer Food Service Program sponsors to distribute materials to inform families of the availability and location of free Summer Food Service Program meals for students when school is not in session. 7 CFR 210.12(d)(2)
- The Summer Meals Site Finder will be LIVE for the 2025 summer season on May 9, 2025.
- Remember to document and timestamp your outreach efforts.



[Download a copy!](https://www.fns.usda.gov/summer/sunmeals)



MONTHLY MEMOS

CHAD LANGSTON

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ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 4/24/25)

- 2025 Distributors' Meeting Session

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/9/25)

- Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) Exemption Form SY 2025-2026

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/9/25)

- 2025 ALSDE Child Nutrition Program New Managers' Training Workshop

USDA Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/12/25)

- SP 11-2025 – Using Federal Funds to Purchase Local Foods

USDA Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/12/25)

- 2025 Summer Culinary Training Announcement

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/13/25)

- Equipment Inventory Memorandum

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/13/25)

- Reminder: FFVP Grant Application Deadline Approaching

USDA Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/14/25)

- SP 12-2025 - Paid Lunch Equity: Guidance for School Year 2025-2026

USDA Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/14/25)

- SP 13-2025 - Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025: Effect on Child Nutrition Programs

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/16/25)

- Registration Now Open: In-Person Training for SY2025-2026 NSLP Application in LINQ

MONTHLY MEMOS

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/19/25)

- SY 2025-2026 Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Eligibility

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/19/25)

- Buy American Guidance

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/19/25)

- Self-paced CEU Opportunity for Directors, Managers, and Staff

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/23/25)

- UPDATE: In-Person Training for SY2025-2026 NSLP Application in LINQ

ALSDE Memo (emailed to all directors on 5/29/25)

- State Agency Food Safety Inspections Report for School Year (SY)2024-2025



TOP TOPICS

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LINQ Annual Application Training Sites

The School Nutrition Program section is excited to announce an upcoming in-person LINQ training session that will provide an opportunity for directors to begin completing the SY2025-2026 annual NSLP application, make any necessary corrections, and potentially submit their application.

June 3rd:

- Area 4 – Montevallo Regional Inservice Center
- Area 5 – Elmore County Board of Education

June 4th:

Area 2 – Etowah County Board of Education

Area 6 – Coastal Alabama Community College: Brewton Campus

June 10th:

- Area 1 – Winston County High School

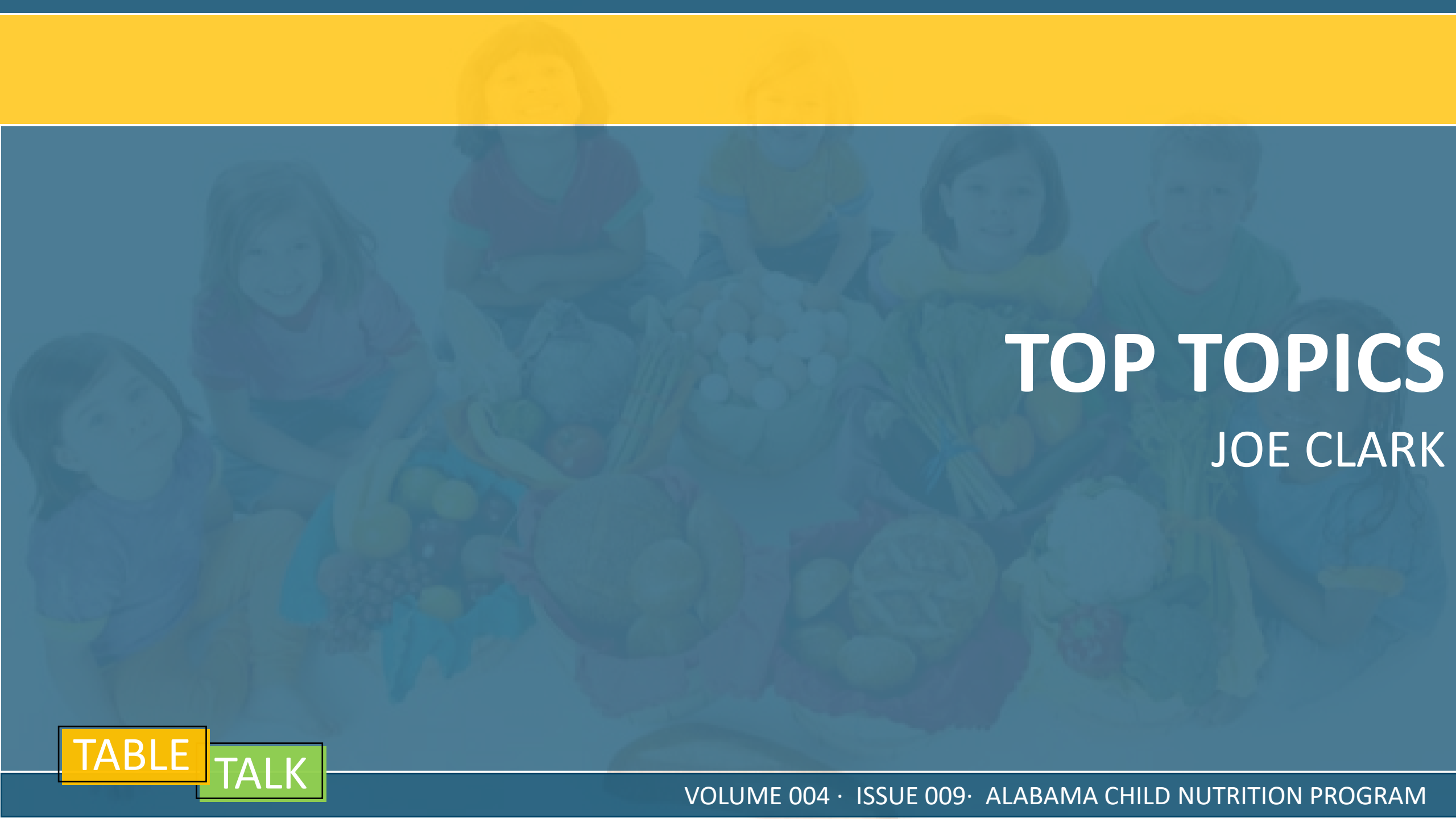
June 11th:

- Area 3 – Montevallo Regional Inservice Center

June 12:

- Area 7 – Enterprise City Schools Service Center





TOP TOPICS

JOE CLARK

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Did You Apply for the FY23 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant?

If you applied and were not awarded a grant but purchased the equipment using CNP funds, please email Joe Clark at jclark@alsde.edu. Please include the school name, the equipment purchased, the cost, and the date of purchase. **Keep in mind, this is only if you submitted a grant application for the equipment.**

FY24 Awardees: Please email Joe Clark at jclark@alsde.edu with a status update on your progress procuring the equipment.

FY25 News: There will be an equipment grant! It was confirmed yesterday, May 28th, that there will be the same funding as last year nationally. More information will come as it is available.





TOP TOPICS

DEVIN WILLIAMSON

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Afterschool Snack Meal Pattern Update

Beginning July 1, 2025

Aligns NSLP snack and CACFP snack requirements

These requirements for NSLP snacks must be implemented by July 1, 2025:

- Only one of the two components served at snack may be a beverage
- Milk must be fat-free or low-fat and may be unflavored or flavored
- Foods that are deep-fat fried on-site are not reimbursable NSLP snacks
- Cereals must contain no more than 6 grams of added sugars per dry ounce
- Yogurt must contain no more than 12 grams of added sugars per 6 ounces (2 grams of added sugars per ounce)
- Grain-based desserts do not count towards the grain requirement

NSLP snacks served to K-12 children must include 2 of the following 5 components:

- Milk
- Meats/meat alternates
- Vegetables
- Fruits
- Grains

Grain-based desserts do not count towards the grain requirement in the NSLP Afterschool Snack Program, continued...

What is considered a grain-based dessert?

- Cookies
- Pie crust
- Doughnuts
- Cereal Bars, Breakfast Bars, Granola Bars
- Sweet roll
- Toaster pastry
- Cake
- Brownies

[Exhibit A: Grain Requirements For Child Nutrition Programs](#)

1st place Southeast Regional Junior Chef Competition!

Haleyville Heat

Korean BBQ Chicken Sandwich

Top Topic



Haleyville Heat Korean BBQ Chicken Sandwich



Summer Culinary Training from the Chef Ann Foundation

6 CEUs

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

Location & Parking Information

Date	City/County	Seats Remaining
June 2nd	Homewood/Jefferson	FULL
June 3rd	Homewood/Jefferson	13
June 4th	Homewood/Jefferson	8
June 5th	Montgomery/Montgomery	FULL
June 6th	Montgomery/Montgomery	10
July 7th	Greenville/Butler	FULL
July 8th	Andalusia/Covington	6

Date	City/County	Seats Remaining
July 9th	Gulf Shores/Baldwin	5
July 10th	University Charter/Sumter	2
July 11th	Demopolis/Marengo	FULL
July 21st	Salem/Lee	FULL
July 22nd	Pell City/St. Clair	FULL
July 23rd	Fairfield/Jefferson	FULL
July 24th	Haleyville/Winston	3
July 25th	Priceville/Morgan	3

School Food Institute from the Chef Ann Foundation

1-2 Hour Self-Paced Course

\$100 dollar value

Register from email from ALSDE on 5/19

You may choose from the following course topics:

- Recipes and Menu Development
- Salad Bars in Schools
- Marketing and Lunchroom Education
- Plant Forward
- Ingredients for Healthier Kids

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 >](#)

Opportunity for Directors, Managers, and Staff

TOP TOPICS

JUSTIN HOPE

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Implementation Timeline

Region	Date
1	January 5, 2026
2	January 19, 2026
5	February 2, 2026
3	February 16, 2026
6	March 2, 2026
4	March 16, 2026



Scott Ulrich

sulrich@LINQ.com

Schedule Meeting with Scott Via Zoom

<https://scheduler.zoom.us/scott-ulrich>

LINQ School Nutrition (Titan) 2025 SUN Programs

1. **Complete Alabama Summer Set Up Steps**
 - A. Emailed from Carla Yamada on May 9, 2025
 - B. Setting up LSN for Summer Service
 - A. *Serving Sessions*
 - B. *Reimbursement Rates to a Program*
 - C. *Academic Year/ Calendar Types*
 - D. *Updating Buildings*
 - E. *Creating Summer Sales Items*
2. Email justin.hope@alsde.edu once all steps have been completed to make sure LINQ enrolls students for the summer.



Alabama Summer Set Up:

1. **If operating SFSP, create SFSP Serving Sessions** (SSO Serving Sessions are available by default and do not need to be added here):
 - a. In **Configuration > Point of Service > Serving Sessions > Add New Serving Session**
 - i. Name: SFSP Breakfast or SFSP Lunch
 - ii. Ignore Start/End Times
 - iii. Publish can be ignored (for spending limits in LINQ Connect)
 - iv. **Save**
 - b. Repeat for any other SFSP serving sessions
2. **Add Reimbursement Rates**
 - a. In **Configuration > Eligibility > Reimbursement Rates > Add New Reimbursement Rate**
 - i. Name: SFSP Breakfast Rate, SFSP Lunch Rate, SSO Breakfast Rate, or SSO Lunch Rate
 - ii. Reimbursement Fund Source: Federal
 - iii. **Save**
 - iv. Enter rate received under Free, Reduced, and Paid (if same rate across the board, just enter in all three)
 - b. Repeat for other Reimbursement Rates
3. **If operating SFSP, add Reimbursement Programs** (SSO Reimbursement Programs are available by default and do not need to be added here)
 - a. In **Configuration > Eligibility > Reimbursement Programs > Add New Reimbursement Program**
4. **Assign Reimbursement Rates to Programs**
 - a. In **Configuration > Eligibility > Reimbursement Programs**



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.

Job Schedule ✕

Name * Direct Certification Flat File Schedule Type * Data Import Template Data Import Template * Direct Certification Flat File

Schedule *
Every: Week on Sunday at 0:05
Monday 2:10
Tuesday 3:15
Wednesday 4:00

Source * Ftp Path * PSDirectCertLunch.txt

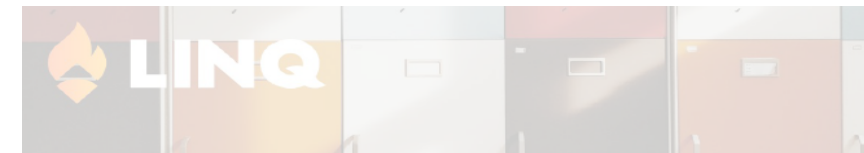
Url * sftp://sftp.titank12.com:22

Run as User ?
Add New .. ☒ Active

Delete Cancel Save



LINQ School Nutrition (Titan) Administrative Reminders



LINQ School Nutrition SFTP – Student Data Transfers

1. SFTP Server Changes for DC Files

- The introduction of this rebrand extends beyond just a new logo or color scheme; it encompasses a revision of the look, and set of values that can enhance the brand's connection with its stakeholders. One of the most critical technical implications of this rebranding is the transition to the Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) servers, which are essential for the import and export of data. Here are several key points to consider regarding this transition:
1. **Change URL**
1. **OLD** – <sftp://sftp.titank12.com:22>
2. **NEW** – <sftp://sftp.schoolnutrition.linq.com>
 2. **Data Flow**: The data import/export processes that utilize the old URLs must be reconfigured. This adjustment will ensure that data continues to flow seamlessly between systems.

URL Changes

- Old URL – <sftp.titank12.com>
- New URL – <sftp.schoolnutrition.linq.com>

SFTP Credentials

- All Usernames, Passwords and Ports already being used will NOT change

Data Flow

- When changing the SFTP URLs, the update should occur on the vendor's side simultaneously to prevent any issues with communications.
- Impacted Areas: Job Scheduler, Report Scheduler and Vendor Integrations



Job Schedule

Name * Schedule Type * Data Import Template *

Schedule *
Every: on at : :

Source * Path *

Url *

Username * Password *

TRAINING TIDBITS

ROBBIE SCOTT

TRAINING TIDBITS



2025 Distributors Statewide Meeting



2025 Distributors Statewide Meeting for CNP Directors

LOCATION: Alabama Cattlemen's Association
201 South Bainbridge Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

WHEN: Wednesday, June 25, 2025

TIME: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

WHO: Directors **or** a designated staff member

REGISTRATION ends on: Friday, June 13, 2025.

LUNCH: Join us for sample portions of SWP items!



Representatives from Wood Fruitticher and PFG will also be in attendance.



Parking is available in the lot directly behind the building on Bainbridge Street. Additional parking across and to the right of the intersection with Alabama Street. Please use the Mooseum entrance at the back of the building. Take the elevator to the third floor.

2025 Distributors Statewide Meeting for CNP Directors



Alabama Cattlemen's Association

201 South Bainbridge Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

9:00 - 2:00

9:00	Registration and Mingling	Angelice Lowe State Director; ALSDE CNP
10:00	Welcome and Introductions	Julie Autrey Education Administrator; ALSDE CNP
10:10	USDA Compliance	Justin Hope Education Specialist; ALSDE CNP
10:55	Titan Update	Tammy Lofton; Education Administrator; ALSDE CNP
11:15	USDA Updates	Andrew Morton; Statewide Procurement Specialist; ALSDE CNP
12:00	SWP Update	Andrew Morton; Statewide Procurement Specialist; ALSDE CNP
12:15	Distributor/Vendor Intros	AL/ MFGs
12:55	Grazing/Samples	



TRAINING TIDBITS



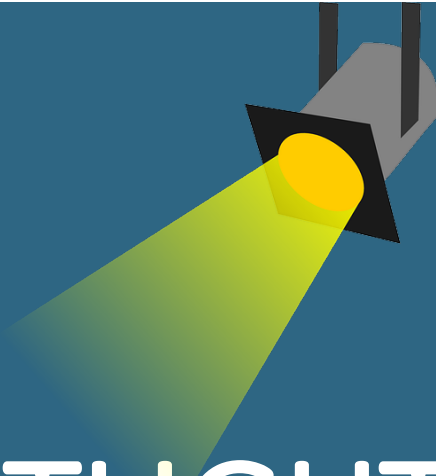
- Please remember that ALSDE will not be conducting Summer Managers Training.
- It is the responsibility of the director to make sure managers receive the appropriate number of hours each program year.
- ICN offers excellent resources.
- Be sure to maintain required documentation of all trainings.





TRAINING TIDBITS

EVENT	DATE	TRAINING	LOCATION	AREA
NEW MANAGERS TRAINING	June 25 – 26, 2025	New Managers	Shelby County Instructional Services Center	Alabaster, AL
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TRAINING	August 12 – 13, 2025	AR Training	Gordon Persons Building Auditorium	Montgomery, AL
NEW DIRECTORS TRAINING	August 18 – 22, 2025	New Directors	Gordon Persons Building Zeke	Montgomery, AL
FALL CONFERENCE	November 11 – 14, 2025	Fall Conference	The Grand Hotel Resort and Conference Center	Point Clear, AL



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

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Sponsor Spotlight

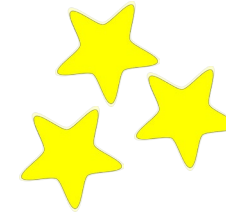
Kristy Oleary, Tuscaloosa County CNP Director

Number of Sites : 35

Number of Employees : 200

Years in Child Nutrition : 14 Years in Child Nutrition (beginning 4th year as a CNP Director)

Kristy Oleary



Favorite Part of the Job: Exploring and inventing new ways to get things done, whether it's new recipes, using AI, or finding out of the box solutions that work.

Least Favorite Part of the Job: Navigating the administrative burden and complexity- sometimes it's like wading through molasses to accomplish a task that would have been so simple in any other world!

Craziest Event: Cats in the Cafeteria Ceiling! I was called to the cafeteria and had to climb a ladder and investigate because the custodian declared it "too high". I found that there was indeed a family of cats trapped in the ceiling. Precariously perched on the highest rung of the ladder, I extracted three newborn kittens and handed them down the ladder. Upon doing so, the mother cat freaked out and began racing around inside the ceiling and knocking out tiles. We had to close the cafeteria for lunch that day until an army of animal welfare volunteers captured momma cat and reunited her with her kittens. They all went home with one of our managers and lived happily ever after. I do not even like cats, and I was probably supposed to submit a revision for this...

Best Advice: Network with the other departments in your district, understand that it's not about you, be prepared to be a solution person and do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, rather in humility. Value others above yourself.



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1.mail:

**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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