



TABLE

TALK



Alabama State Department of Education
Child Nutrition Programs

VOLUME 005

ISSUE 003

September 25, 2025

Webex Recording



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

OVERVIEW

- National School Lunch Week
- After School Snack Review

Reviews and
Reminders

Monthly Memos

- ALSDE
- USDA

- Verification
- AL Wellness Alliance
- LINQ – Claims
- CNP Top Guns
- Culinary Challenge
- F2S FY26 grant
- F2S Breakfast Tray Contest
- Jr. Chef Competition

Top Topics

Training Tidbits

- Training Dates
- Fall Conference

- Caroll McQueen

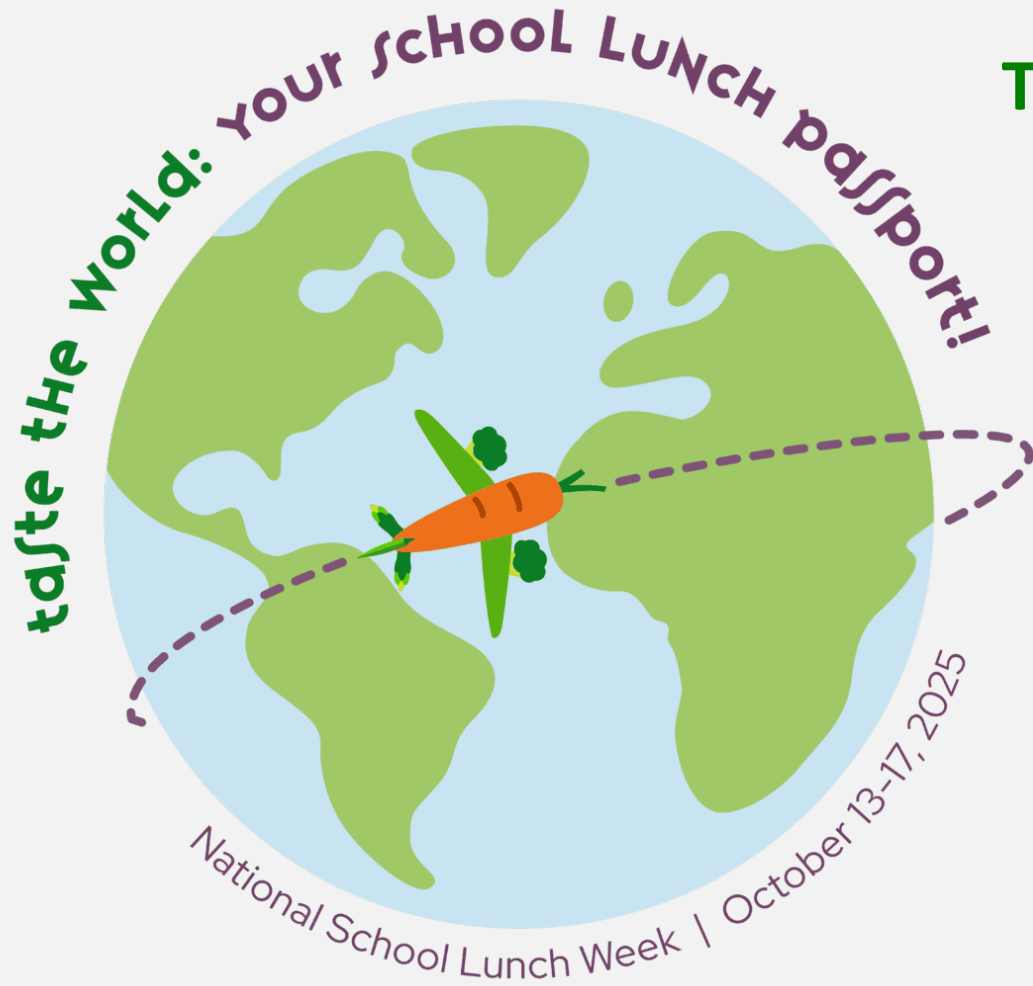
Sponsor
Spotlight



REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

ROBBIE SCOTT

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS



Taste the World: Your School Lunch Passport!

**National School Lunch Week
October 13th – 17th**

- Visit the Official NSLW25 Store
- Download Logos
- Resource Page

[National School Lunch Week - School Nutrition Association](https://schoolnutrition.org/about-school-meals/national-school-lunch-week/)

<https://schoolnutrition.org/about-school-meals/national-school-lunch-week/>

REVIEWS AND REMINDERS

After School Snack Program (ASSP)

- All ASSPs must be reviewed within 4 weeks of initiating the program.
- No claims for snacks served prior to approval of program will be reimbursed.
- Forms are available on Alabama Achieves website:

The image shows two overlapping copies of a form titled "Alabama Department of Education Child Nutrition Program After School Snack Program On-Site School Review for LEAs". The form includes fields for Site Name, Reviewer's Name, and Date. It also contains instructions: "This review form must be completed twice per school year for each after school snack program site. The first review must be conducted within the first 4 weeks of program initiation." There are checkboxes for "First Review" and "Second Review". The form is divided into two main sections: "Area Eligible School" and "Non-Area Eligible School". Each section has a table with columns for "YES" and "NO" and rows for various criteria: 1. Area Eligibility Data (based on most recent October), 2. Meal Counts (total by site), 3. Attendance Records, 4. Production Records, 5. Meal Pattern Compliance, 6. Is reimbursement claimed for only one snack per student per day?, 7. Does the meal count for the Day of Review follow the pattern for the previous 10 days?, and 8. Are educational records maintained for the following records? The form also features the Alabama Department of Education logo and the Child Nutrition Program logo.

<https://www.alabamaachieves.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/After-School-Snack-Program-Onsite-Review-Form.pdf>



MONTHLY MEMOS

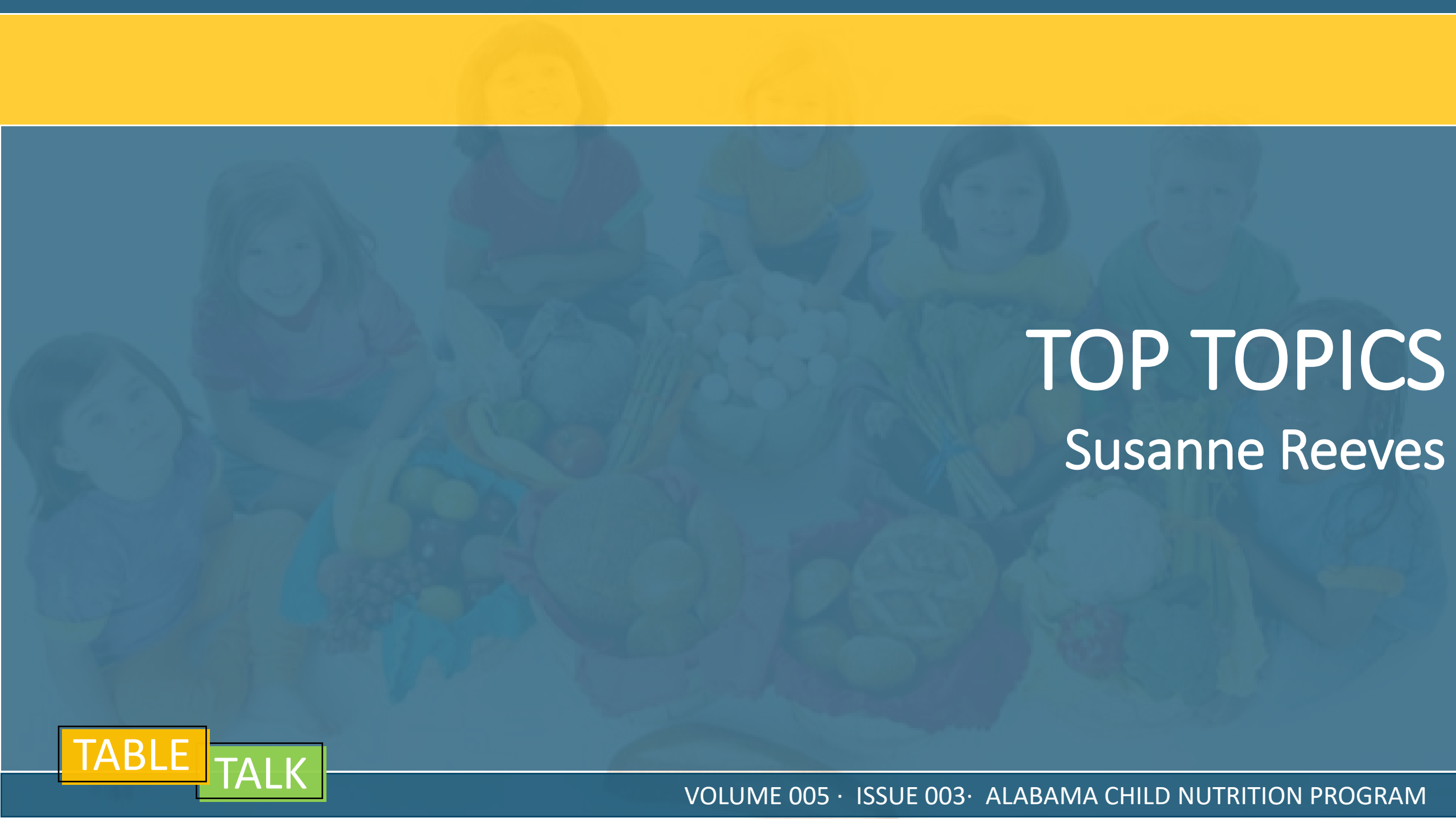
JULIE AUTREY

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MONTHLY MEMOS

- Reminder-Alabama Farm to School Culinary Challenge 8/26/25
- Monthly Reminder to submit FFVP Claims 8/28/25
- LINQ Application Claim Submission guidance 8/29/25
- Table Talk Invitation for today's Webinar 9/8/25
- National School Lunch Week Survey for USDA SERO 9/10/25 and 9/22/25
- CNP Directors' Fall Conference Announcement 9/10/25
- Alabama State Jr. Chef Competition 9/11/25 and 9/22/25
- USDA's Farm to School Grant Program Announcement 9/12/25
- CNP Directors' Fall Conference Registration for staff 9/15/25
- USDA's School Resource Updates from Team Nutrition 9/17/25
 - [The Road to Successful Menu Planning for School Meals](#)



TOP TOPICS

Susanne Reeves

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VERIFICATION

October 1:

SFA's who verify applications should complete sections 4 & 5 of the Verification Report in the LINQ online application

- The Verification Report is located in the online application list.

October 31:

All SFAs

- RCCIs and Full District CEP SFAs

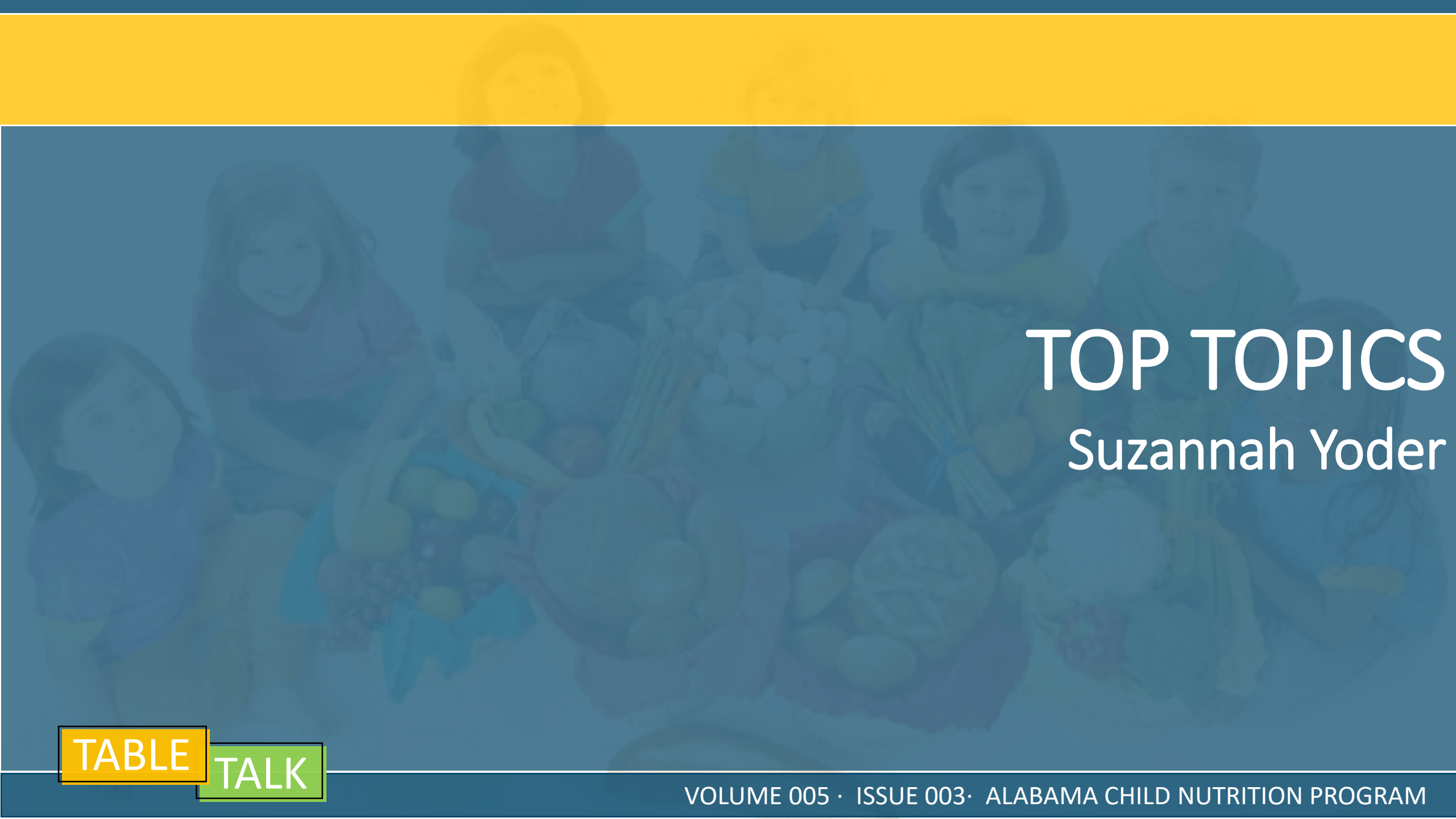
- Complete Section 1-3 of the Verification Report on the last operating day of October

- SFAS Verifying Applications

- Complete Section 1-3 & Section 4 Column B on the last operating day of October

November 15: Verification Must Be Complete

November 18: Verification Report must be completed online



TOP TOPICS

Suzannah Yoder

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ALABAMA WELLNESS ALLIANCE




AWA
ALABAMA WELLNESS ALLIANCE
SUMMIT
SAVE THE DATE
OCTOBER 21, 2025
HOOVER MET COMPLEX

[Registration Link](#): Space is limited to the first 150 people who register! The cost is \$35.

Event Details:

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at the
Hoover Met Complex
5508 Stadium Trace Parkway
Hoover, AL

8:00-4:00 p.m.

Streamlined Claims

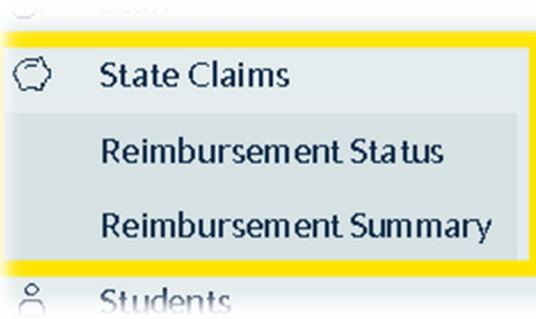


Are you interested in simplifying your monthly claims and removing manual data entry?

Streamlined Claims is the Answer!!!

Email cnpslp@alsde.edu

Put Streamlined Claims in the subject



Building		Meals Served					Free Meals		Reduced Meals		Paid Meals		Total Meals	
Name	Days	Non Congregate Meals	Free	Reduced	Paid	Total	Estimated	Returned	Estimated	Returned	Estimated	Returned	Estimated	Returned
	18	0	9279	0	545	9824	\$39,837.93	\$39,837.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$277.55	\$277.55	\$40,115.48	\$40,115.48
	18	0	15345	0	267	15612	\$61,109.25	\$61,109.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$128.55	\$128.55	\$61,237.80	\$61,237.80
	18	0	16478	0	968	17446	\$70,792.26	\$70,792.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$492.80	\$492.80	\$71,285.06	\$71,285.06
	18	0	13901	0	1673	15574	\$60,280.53	\$60,280.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$867.20	\$867.20	\$61,147.73	\$61,147.73

CNP Top Guns

Alabama Child Nutrition's

TOP GUNS



<https://forms.office.com/r/zcgYT2wDXE>

TABLE
TALK

We're taking nominations!

Complete this survey to let us know about the great things that are happening in your program:

- Personal Accomplishments
- Co-Worker Accomplishments
- Program Accomplishments

Nominations will be required to include:

- Detailed description of the accomplishment (no more than 200 words).
- Pictures (no more than 3) that will help share the story. Pictures should be emailed to cnpslp@alsde.edu.
- Put: "Fall Conference Nomination" in the memo line.

Deadline for completed nominations is OCTOBER 10, 2025.

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TOP TOPICS

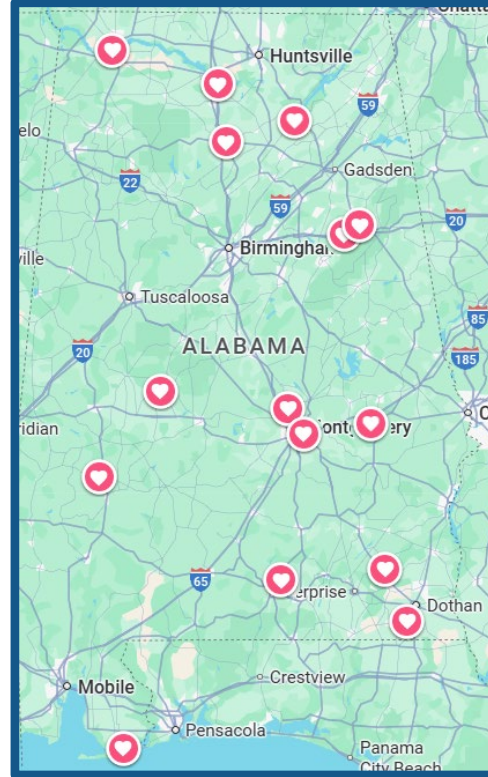
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ALSDE'S Culinary Challenge

District	School
Anniston City	Anniston High School
Breakthrough Charter	Breakthrough Charter School
Covington County	Straughn Elementary/Middle
Cullman City	Cullman Primary
Elmore County	Stanhope Elmore High School
Houston County	Rehobeth Middle/High School
Guntersville City	Guntersville Middle School
Macon County	Booker T. Washington High School
Marengo County	Marengo High School
Montgomery Public	LAMP High School
Morgan County	Priceville High School
Orange Beach City	Orange Beach Middle & High School
Oxford City Schools	Oxford Elementary School
Ozark City Schools	Carroll High School
Sheffield City Schools	Sheffield Junior High/High School



Welcome. Cohort #2

In **October**, schools will be making and testing one of these recipes:

- Pulled Pork Sandwich with AL White Sauce
- Apple Pecan Crisp

Patrick Leahy Farm to School FY 26 Grant

Applications are out now!

Application Due Date: **December 5, 2025**

Anticipated Award Date: **June 2026**

Start and End Date of Award: **July 2026-June 2028**

****Districts will need to apply directly
with the USDA for this grant.****

Minimum grant award: \$100,000

Maximum grant award: \$500,000

The objective of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Farm to School Grant is to improve access to local foods in eligible CNP sites through comprehensive farm to CNP programming that includes local sourcing and agricultural education efforts.

This application differs significantly in several important ways from past Farm to School Grant Program solicitations.

The USDA Farm to School Team will host office hours to provide applicants with an opportunity to ask questions about the grant program.

Sessions will be held from 2:00-3:00 PM Eastern Time on:

- October 8, 2025 ([Click Here to Join](#))
- October 21, 2025 ([Click Here to Join](#))
- November 5, 2025 ([Click Here to Join](#))
- November 18, 2025 ([Click Here to Join](#))
- December 2, 2025 ([Click Here to Join](#))



Patrick Leahy Farm to School FY 26 Grant

Unique Aspects of the Grant:

- Large Equipment is an allowable expense! For example: walk-in freezers, coolers, processing equipment, hoop houses, salad bars, ovens.
- Requires cost matching from a non-federal source
- Must be a part of a Partnership to apply

Partnership:

A partnership is a group of three or more entities, including a coordinating entity, that will participate in F2S Grant Projects.

Partnership Ideas

-State Agencies:

ALSDE

- Procurement & Regulations
- Equipment Approval Process

ADAI

- Connection to Local Farmers

-Child Nutrition Programs Operators

(NSLP, CACFP, or SFSP)

-Local Agencies

-Agricultural Producers

-Groups of Agricultural Producers

-Non-profits

F2S Breakfast Tray Contest

ALSDE Farm to School Breakfast Contest



The Alabama State Department of Education is excited to launch a contest celebrating scratch-made breakfast recipes that highlight Alabama-grown ingredients in school meals!

ALSDE staff in all departments will select the top ten, and Alabama child nutrition directors will vote on the top ten at our 2025 Fall Conference. The school and district name of the submission will not be revealed to voters (state staff or child nutrition directors). The winning cafeteria will receive recognition of their team and breakfast tray. Please make sure that the pictures that you submit do not disclose your district and school.

*Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!*

The deadline to submit the entry forms below is **October 31st, 2025.**

[Farm to School Breakfast Contest - Google Forms](#)



Apply here!

Submission requirements:

- Local item and local farm
- Recipe
- Photo of a close-up of the recipe
- A photo of the recipe on the tray as part of a reimbursable meal
- A photo of the recipe in action (on the serving line, being enjoyed by students, etc.)

NOTE: This may be a recipe from a website or training.
It does not have to be an original recipe.



*Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!*

The deadline to submit
the entry form is
October 24th, 2025.

Junior Chef Competition Dates



For an application, email
cnpslp@alsde.edu and copy
devin.williamson@alsde.edu.

*This year only, we are offering a **\$750 travel reimbursement** for the top 7 teams to attend our state competition.*

Applications are out now!



Competition	Dates
State Competition	January 23, 2026
State Competition Back-up Date for Inclement Weather	January 30, 2026
SERO Competition	April 23 rd -24 th , 2026

*Both Alabama and SERO competitions will take place
at Jefferson State Community College,
Shelby-Hoover Campus.*

TRAINING TIDBITS

ROBBIE SCOTT



TRAINING TIDBITS

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION	AREA
FALL CONFERENCE	November 11 – 14, 2025	The Grand Hotel Resort and Conference Center	Point Clear, AL



2025 CNP Directors' Fall Conference

United for Nutrition: Fueling Young Minds

Deadline to Book Hotel:

TOMORROW, Friday, September 26th

Deadline to Register for Conference:

Friday, October 24th

Sonja Anthony, ASNA Director
asnaexecutivedirector@gmail.com

Registration form and fee must be
received by October 24, 2025.

Registration fees will not be collected at
the conference.



<https://asna.memberclicks.net/alsde2025>
Hotel Reservation

2025 CNP Directors' Fall Conference

2025 CNP Directors' Fall Conference Event

Dairy Alliance Virtual Tour and Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries

Tuesday, November 11, 2025 @ 2:00

The Grand Hotel
Conference Center
Grand Ballroom North
3:00 Milk and Cookie Break



Alabama Farm to School Summit



- ★ Procurement Reminders
- ★ Farmer Introduction
- ★ Culinary Demonstration from the Chef Ann Foundation using products from AL farmers
- ★ Meet and Greet time with our amazing Alabama farmers!

2025 CNP Directors' Fall Conference

New This Year! *Welcome Lunch*

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

12:00 – 12:45

Azalea Ballroom

*This will run simultaneously with conference registration.

2025 CNP Directors' Fall Conference

Stars and Stripes Social

Social Hour sponsored by
Industry Partners

Wednesday, November 12th

5:30 – 7:00

Place: TBD

Red, Bites, and Blue

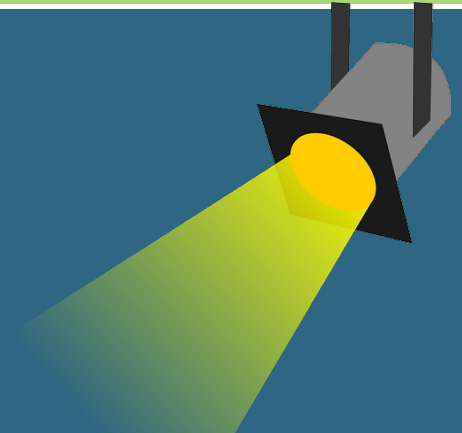
Social Event sponsored by PMR
PRIVATE EVENT for Directors, Attendees from
SFAs and SA Staff only.

Thursday, November 13th

5:00 – 7:00

South Ballroom Patio

Apps/Beverages/Entertainment and MORE

A graphic of a stage spotlight hanging from above, casting a beam of light onto the text.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Susanne Reeves

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Sponsor Spotlight

Caroll McQueen

Mobile County Public Schools

of Sites: 88
of Employees: 465
of Years in Child Nutrition: 23

Favorite Part of the Job: Visiting schools, meeting with managers and engaging with the students to get opinions about the meals.

Least Favorite Part: Handling staff issues and other obstacles that distract from my core responsibilities. Working through personnel problems and complications that hinder job performance.

Most Meaningful Thing: During COVID, I helped ensure students were fed and had the opportunity to meet parents in person. It was meaningful to see firsthand the positive impact we had—not just on the students, but also on the parents who relied on us for meals. I also visited various sites across the district, collaborating with employees from different departments to support our efforts.

Best advice for new CNP Directors: Don't overthink things—stay calm. If you make mistakes, remember you're not the first and won't be the last. Keep a sense of humor; things usually work out in the end. Most problems can be fixed. And make sure you have a hobby or activity that helps you relax and take your mind off work.



Thank you for attending!

Be sure to document your attendance by completing the survey.

Scan the QR code



<https://forms.office.com/r/KcWZZcXWyZ?origin=IprLink>





Ask Us

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Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

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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