



Child Nutrition Update

July 29, 2009

In this Issue:

- (1) CN Technology System
 - (2) Direct Certification/Verification System (DCV)
 - (3) Upcoming Survey about Training Needs for the Child Nutrition Leadership Academy
 - (4) Equipment Assistance Grant *"Success Stories"* requested
 - (5) 2009 – 2010 Awards for Excellence (separate attachment)
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(1) CN Technology System

The Child Nutrition Technology System is now available for use. Please note during the most recent maintenance of the technology system, the NC Information Technology Office required the agency to install "NCID" which is a new security portal through which all (eventually) electronic communications will be received by state agencies. As a result of this installation, the web address for the Child Nutrition Technology System has been changed to: <https://www.ncchildnutrition.org>

Upon your initial login at this new web address, you should be prompted to enter your *User Name* and *User Password*. The information entered at this point will be the same information that you used to access the Child Nutrition Technology System in the past. Once you select the "login" button at the bottom of the page, a new screen will appear. This screen will be used to capture the required security information. The user is requested to enter the NCID User Name and NCID password.

If you have not yet registered for a NCID account, please select the "Continue" button located in the middle of the page; this should take you directly into the Child Nutrition Technology System, where you may access your SFA's application and claims sites.

Please note that effective August 31, 2009, SFAs will no longer be able to access the Child Nutrition Technology System for any

purpose without an NCID account or password. Our section was informed of this requirement on July 24th. We are in the process of preparing individual letters to each SFA to provide instructions for obtaining an NCID Account and Password for personnel who are currently authorized users of the Child Nutrition Technology System.

If you have already established an NCID Account and Password (in order to have access to the Direct Certification/Verification System or for any other electronic system), it is not necessary to establish a new account. A single NCID Account may be used to access multiple electronic systems.

Please keep in mind that each NCID Account-holder is required to change the password every 90 days. You will be reminded via email to change the password 10 days prior to the expiration. Please be on the lookout for your LEA's letter about acquiring an NCID account.

For questions, contact the NCDPI HelpDesk at 919-807-4357.

(2) Direct Certification/Verification System (DCV)

Just a friendly reminder....in order to access the Direct Certification program to obtain the list of students that are directly certified for free meals based on receipt of Foods Stamps or TANF, you need to complete the following steps:

1. Obtain an NCID
2. Complete the DCV Access Form and fax to the Child Nutrition Services Section at NCDPI Fax: (919) 807-3516
3. Subscribe to DCV

Instructions for completing the steps above are posted on the Child Nutrition Service website at <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/childnutrition/>

This DCV System will provide a monthly match that **MUST BE** downloaded before the next match occurs. It is critical that each match is promptly downloaded because any future "matches" generated by the DCV System will "replace" the prior month's match. You may view the prior month's match at any time, but once the "new match" replaces the match from the prior month, you will be required to manually enter the prior month's match into your LEA's Free/Reduced Software System.

The initial direct certification match was created July 10th and MUST BE downloaded ON OR BEFORE August 10th. As previously mentioned, if the current list of DC students is not downloaded into your LEA's F/R Software System, all information will require manual entry in order to be used in the Child Nutrition Program.

It is imperative that Steps 1 through 3 are completed as soon as possible to ensure that the data is received in a timely and efficient manner and to save the expense and extra effort of having to manually enter the data.

For questions please contact Donna Knight at (919) 807-3512 or dknight@dpi.state.nc.us . Given the potential number of calls from public and charter schools, e-mail is preferred in order to expedite a response.

(3) Upcoming Survey about Training Needs for the Child Nutrition Leadership Academy

Please be on the lookout for a Zoomerang Survey from the Child Nutrition Services Section next week. The purpose of the survey is to get your feedback about training needs for you and your staff for the coming year. Your suggestions for training topics are greatly appreciated. Our goal is to provide the highest quality, useful and relevant training experiences through the Child Nutrition Leadership Academy. These training opportunities are facilitated by the North Carolina State University Office of Continuing and Professional Development.

(4) Equipment Assistance Grant *"Success Stories"* requested

The Secretary of Agriculture was a strong supporter of stimulus funds that were made available to states for Equipment Assistance Grants. Now, the Secretary has asked each state to begin providing "success stories" of how these funds were used and what kind of impact the new equipment has had or will have on the School Nutrition Program in the schools to which the grants were awarded. Please send success stories, including "before and after" photos, newspaper articles, local Board of Education Commendations...anything we may forward to the Secretary. Who knows,

if he sees how critical these funds were to the operation of your programs...perhaps he will advocate for a "second round" of stimulus funds for the Child Nutrition Program. Please send your success stories to Lynn Hoggard at lhoggard@dpi.state.nc.us Thank you!

(5) 2009 – 2010 Awards for Excellence (separate attachment)

The 2009 – 2010 ***Awards for Excellence*** program packet is attached. The purpose of the award is to foster high standards of excellence in North Carolina's Child Nutrition Programs and to honor the Child Nutrition teams that achieve and maintain high standards. Please encourage the staff in your LEA to participate in the ***Awards for Excellence*** program this year by organizing and submitting their accomplishments according to the criteria contained in guidance materials, in order that they may be recognized for their efforts to achieve excellence in their school nutrition programs. We look forward to hearing from your LEA!

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