

Professional Standards Learning Topics

With Learning Topic Codes

1000 NUTRITION

1100 MENU PLANNING

- 1110 USDA NUTRITION REQUIREMENTS
- 1120 CYCLE MENUS
- 1130 LOCAL FOODS --FARM TO SCHOOL
- 1140 STANDARDIZED RECIPES
- 1150 MENU ANALYSIS
- 1160 SPECIAL DIETS, INCLUDING FOOD ALLERGIES
- 1170 USDA FOODS

1200 NUTRITION EDUCATION

- 1210 NUTRITION ACTIVITIES
- 1220 CLASSROOM AND CAFETERIA INTEGRATION
- 1230 SCHOOL GARDENS

1300 GENERAL NUTRITION

- 1310 DIETARY GUIDELINES FOR AMERICANS, MYPLATE AND SCHOOL NUTRITION
- 1320 GENERAL NUTRITION

2000 OPERATIONS

2100 FOOD PRODUCTION

- 2110 STANDARDIZED RECIPES
- 2120 FOOD PRODUCTION RECORDS
- 2130 CULINARY SKILLS
- 2140 USE AND CARE OF EQUIPMENT
- 2150 CN LABELING, CREDITING

2200 SERVING FOOD

- 2210 PORTION SIZES/SPECIAL DIETS
- 2220 OFFER VS SERVE
- 2230 MAINTAINING FOOD QUALITY AND APPEARANCE
- 2240 SERVING LINES

2300 CASHIER AND POINT OF SERVICE (POS)

- 2310 REIMBURSABLE MEALS
- 2320 POS FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- 2330 FREE OR REDUCED IDENTIFICATION

2400 PURCHASING/PROCUREMENT

- 2410 PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS
- 2420 BID SOLICITATION AND EVALUATION
- 2430 PURCHASE FOOD, SUPPLIES, AND EQUIPMENT
- 2440 FOOD AND SUPPLIES ORDERS
- 2450 COOPERATIVE PURCHASING GROUPS
- 2460 CONTRACTS WITH FS MANAGEMENT CO.

- 2500 RECEIVING AND STORAGE**
 - 2510 INVENTORY MANAGEMENT
 - 2520 RECEIVING AND STORAGE
 - 2530 HOLD AND RECALL

- 2600 FOOD SAFETY AND HACCP**
 - 2610 HACCP
 - 2620 FOOD SAFETY-GENERAL
 - 2630 FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL FOOD SAFETY REGULATIONS
 - 2640 FOOD SAFETY CULTURE

- 3000 ADMINISTRATION**
 - 3100 FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEAL BENEFITS**
 - 3110 ELIGIBILITY
 - 3120 DIRECT CERTIFICATION
 - 3130 COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY (CE)

 - 3200 PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**
 - 3210 STAFF MANAGEMENT
 - 3220 STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
 - 3230 HEALTHY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT
 - 3240 EMERGENCY PLANS
 - 3250 WATER, ENERGY, AND WASTE MANAGEMENT
 - 3260 ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

 - 3300 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**
 - 3310 MEAL COUNTING, CLAIMING, MANAGING FUNDS
 - 3320 COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS/POLICIES
 - 3330 BUDGETS
 - 3340 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS
 - 3350 PRICING
 - 3360 COMMUNICATE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

 - 3400 HUMAN RESOURCES AND STAFF TRAINING**
 - 3410 HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
 - 3420 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
 - 3430 TRAINING PLANS AND TRACKING
 - 3440 RETENTION, PROMOTION, AND RECOGNITION
 - 3450 EMPLOYEE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLNESS

 - 3500 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLANNING**
 - 3510 FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT PLANNING
 - 3520 EQUIPMENT PURCHASING & MAINTENANCE

- 4000 COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING**
 - 4100 COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING**
 - 4110 STRATEGIC AND MARKETING PLANS
 - 4120 PROGRAM PROMOTION
 - 4130 CUSTOMER SERVICE
 - 4140 COMMUNICATION SKILLS
 - 4150 SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION
 - 4160 SMARTER LUNCHROOMS TECHNIQUES

Professional Standards Learning Objectives

The Professional Standards Learning Objectives are a resource for school nutrition employees and trainers. It lists training topics in the four Key Areas of Nutrition, Operations, Administration and Communications/Marketing. Each Key Area has several Key Topics and specific training subjects with objectives that will assist those who are planning or taking training. These same categories are used in the on-line database of trainings as well as in the optional downloadable Tracking Tool.

KEY AREAS AND KEY TOPICS

NUTRITION - 1000

- Menu planning
- Nutrition education
- General nutrition

OPERATIONS - 2000

- Food production
- Serving food
- Cashier and point of service
- Purchasing/Procurement
- Receiving and storage
- Food safety and HACCP

ADMINISTRATION - 3000

- Free and reduced price meal benefits
- Program management
- Financial management
- Human resources and staff training
- Facilities and equipment planning

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING - 4000

- Communications and marketing

Nutrition

Objectives:

MENU PLANNING - 1100

Employee will be able to effectively and efficiently plan and prepare standardized recipes, cycle menus, and meals, including the use of USDA Foods, to meet all Federal school nutrition program requirements, including the proper meal components.

1110 - Plan menus that meet USDA nutrition requirements for reimbursable meals, including calculating meal components.

1120- Plan cycle menus that meet all rules. Consider cost, equipment, foods available, storage, staffing, student tastes, and promotional events.

1130- Utilize local food sources, especially Farm to School, when possible.

1140- Write standardized recipes, and use Food Buying Guide.

1150- Analyze menus for school meal pattern requirements.

1160- Plan meals to accommodate students requiring special diets, including food allergies.

1170- Plan for effective use of USDA Foods.

NUTRITION EDUCATION - 1200

Employee will be able to utilize resources to prepare and integrate age/grade appropriate nutrition education curriculum with school nutrition program.

1210- Plan age/grade appropriate nutrition education activities using USDA Team Nutrition materials when possible.

1220- Integrate nutrition education curriculum with school nutrition program, utilizing the cafeteria as a learning environment. (Including Team Nutrition resources).

1230- Support school gardens as a means to nutrition education.

GENERAL NUTRITION - 1300

Employee will be able to understand the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, USDA food guidance concepts and general nutrition principles.

1310- Relate the Dietary Guidelines and USDA food guidance (such as MyPlate) concepts to the goals of the school nutrition programs.

1320- Understand general nutrition concepts that relate to school meals, such as whole grains, sodium, etc.

Operations

Objectives:

FOOD PRODUCTION - 2100

Employee will be able to effectively utilize food preparation principles, production records, kitchen equipment, and food crediting to prepare foods from standardized recipes, including those for special diets.

2110- Understand and effectively prepare food using a standardized recipe.

2120- Complete a food production record and other required paperwork.

2130- Develop culinary skills necessary for school meal preparation.

2140- Properly use and care for equipment.

2150- Understand CN labeling, product formulation statements and/or appropriate crediting information for school meal pattern.

SERVING FOOD - 2200

Employee will be able to correctly and efficiently serve food portions to meet all USDA school meal pattern requirements and encourage healthy food selections including those for special diets.

2210- Identify/serve portions of food items according to USDA school meal pattern requirements and diet restrictions.

2220- Use Offer Versus Serve correctly.

2230- Serve food to maintain quality and appearance standards.

2240- Manage serving lines for clean and efficient operation.

CASHIER AND POINT OF SERVICE - 2300

Employee will be able to efficiently operate and utilize a Point of Service (POS) system, ensuring correct application of reimbursable meal components, Offer Versus Serve, and confidential student eligibility identification in a financially responsible manner.

2310- Count reimbursable meals according to meal pattern requirements (including Offer Versus Serve) and eligibility status.

2320- Use financial responsibility at Point of Service.

2330- Apply proper measures to prevent overt identification of students receiving free or reduced price meals.

PURCHASING - 2400

Employee will be able to effectively and efficiently implement purchasing procedures and practices in order to appropriately and best utilize supplies and USDA Foods to meet menu requirements and comply with all Federal, State, and local regulations.

2410- Develop product specifications to best meet menu requirements.

2420- Solicit, receive and evaluate bids for award in compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations.

2430- Purchase food, supplies, and equipment through vendors, meeting school district specifications in compliance with Federal, State, and local procurement regulations and availability of USDA Foods.

2440- Generate food and supply orders.

2450- Identify possible cooperative purchasing groups and geographic preference options.

2460- Develop and monitor contract(s) with foodservice management company and/or others.

RECEIVING AND STORAGE - 2500

Employee will be able to ensure proper inventory management including correct delivery and storage of inventory, and that which has been placed on hold or recalled.

2510- Develop processes for inventory management.

2520- Apply safe and effective inventory receiving and storage procedures.

2530- Understand hold and recall procedures.

FOOD SAFETY AND HACCP TRAINING - 2600

Employee will be able to effectively utilize all food safety program guidelines and health department regulations to ensure optimal food safety.

2610-Practice a HACCP-based program.

2620-Practice general food safety procedures.

2630-Practice Federal, State, and local food safety regulations and guidance.

2640-Promote a culture of food safety behaviors in the school community.

Administration

Objectives:

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEAL BENEFITS - 3100

Employee will be able to effectively certify, process, and verify free and reduced price meal eligibility benefits in accordance with Federal and State regulations related to nutrition programs. Understand and apply Community Eligibility (CE) to eliminate the administrative burden of school meal applications and be able to serve meals at no charge.

3110-Certify, process, and verify free and reduced price meal eligibility benefits in compliance with Federal regulations.

3120-Understand and practice direct certification procedures practiced by your state.

3130- Understand and apply Community Eligibility (CE).

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT - 3200

Employee will be able to effectively manage staff and resources; prepare for yearly Administrative Reviews, emergency programs; and utilize Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

3210-Manage staff work including scheduling.

3220-Oversee Standard Operating Procedures for routine operations.

3230-Evaluate and utilize resources to promote a healthy school environment.

3240-Develop and implement emergency and disaster plans as needed.

3250-Manage water, energy, and waste.

3260-Prepare for yearly Administrative Reviews.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT - 3300

Employee will be able to manage procedures and records for compliance with Resource Management with efficiency and accuracy in accordance with all Federal, State, and local regulations, as well as the Administrative Review.

3310-Implement a system of checks and balances to ensure accuracy and integrity of meal counting and claiming, funds collected, and record keeping.

3320-Establish and document appropriate accounting procedures for all revenues and expenses, ensuring that all procedures comply with Federal, State, and local regulations and Administrative Review.

3330-Prepare a budget that appropriately reflects financial goals.

3340-Analyze financial statements and accounting procedures to make informed financial decisions and ensure alignment with budget and regulations.

3350-Recommend prices for meals and other food items to district authorities, maintaining compliance with Federal, State, and local guidelines.

3360-Communicate financial goals, status and other data to appropriate district and State authorities.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND STAFF TRAINING - 3400

Employee will be able to implement human resources management practices through maintenance and familiarity with current personnel policies and procedures and support employees through training and retention strategies.

3410-Understand and apply human resource management practices.

3420-Implement current personnel policies and procedures.

3430-Develop employee training plans, including a plan for tracking training.

3440-Implement a system for retention, promotion and recognition.

3450-Foster employee health, safety, and wellness.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT PLANNING - 3500

Employee will be able to evaluate school nutrition program equipment and facilities to ensure maximum efficiency and availability of healthy food choices.

3510-Evaluate/plan facilities and equipment to meet program goals.

3520-Maintain plans for purchasing and maintaining equipment.

Communications and Marketing

Objectives:

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING -4100

Employee will be able to develop plans that include involvement with school and community members, empower school nutrition leaders and address excellent customer service.

4110-Develop strategic plans and marketing plans that reflect program goals and enhance interaction with stakeholders.

4120-Promote the Child Nutrition Program.

4130-Empower school nutrition staff to provide excellent customer service.

4140-Develop communications skills.

4150-Communicate within the school and to the community through multiple approaches to inform and educate stakeholders.

4160-Create an environment that engages students to select and consume healthy foods with minimum waste, including Smarter Lunchroom techniques.