



# Summer Meals Newsletter

## In Case You Missed It:

### [Webinar: 2018 Turnip the Beet Award](#)

The Turnip the Beet Award recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Programs sponsors across the nation who work hard to offer high-quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious during the summer months. During the webinar, FNS reviewed Turnip the Beet materials for 2018 and answered questions about this year's program. Watch the webinar [here](#).

### [Webinar: Farm to School FY 2019 Grant](#)

This webinar provided an overview of how to apply for the FY19 Farm to School Grant Program. Watch the webinar [here](#).



## Recently Released Reports

The Office of Community Food Systems (OCFS) recently released a new report: [Cultivating Opportunity: An Overview of USDA's Fiscal Year 2015 and 2016 Farm to School Grantees' Growing Achievements](#).

This report highlights trends and best practices from fiscal year (FY) 2015 and 2016. OCFS also takes a look at baseline data collected from grantees to assess the impact of the grant program on the growth of the farm to school movement nationwide.

## Request for Applications! FY 2019 Farm to School Grant Program

The [FY 2019 Farm to School Grant Program Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#) is now open. For grant year 2019, the Office of Community Food Systems hopes to award approximately \$7.5M in funding to projects that bring locally or regionally produced foods into schools.

The application closes December 4, 2018, 11:59pm EST. Late applications will not be accepted. Decisions will be announced in late spring or early summer of 2019. Click [here](#) to view resources for program applicants.



## TURNIP THE BEET Award for Summer 2018!

The [Turnip the Beet Award](#) recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors across the nation who work hard to offer high quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious during the summer months. The award is open to all sponsors operating the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option in participating states.

To learn more about the Turnip the Beet Award and the nomination process, please see the [Turnip the Beet webpage](#), where you can find the Nomination Form, Award Overview, and other resources for planning and serving healthy meals: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/turnip-the-beet>.

Contact your State agency for more information!

### Fiscal Year 2019 CACFP & SFSP Area Eligibility Data Now Available!

You can start planning for Summer 2019 with the help of the [Area Eligibility Mapper](#). This map allows sponsors to confirm eligibility of summer meal sites by accessing census tract and census block group (CBG) data.

This data set can be used to establish area eligibility in both the CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food Program) and the SFSP (Summer Food Service Program). The FNS mapping tools were updated to reflect the October 1, 2018 changes.

To explore the Area Eligibility Map, click [here](#). To learn more about using census data for establishing area eligibility, please review our [policy guidance](#) from 2017. Other mapping tools are available on the USDA [website](#).

