



SNAC Bites

July 2018 Edition

Welcome to the June 2018 issue of SNA Communication (SNAC) Bites! SNAC Bites highlights new SNA programs and provides content for your state association publications, chapter meetings, & social media. In some cases, the content will need to be customized for your state association's needs.

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1. SNA's New Level 2 Certificate Has Launched—Learn More at #ANC18!

SNA's Certificate in School Nutrition Program now has 4 Levels! The new [Level 2 Certificate](#) bridges the large jump in training requirements between Level 1 and the old Level 2. There are no changes for Level 1 Certificate holders, but existing Level 2 and Level 3 certificate holders have been notified that their certificate has been renamed Level 3 and Level 4 respectively. Your state certificate rosters have been updated to reflect the new level and name changes and can be downloaded from schoolnutrition.org/myaccount. Attending #ANC18? Visit SNA's Member Resources Center to learn more about the new Level 2 and how you can begin to "Plant the Seeds" for professional growth!

2. Your Mid-Year Advocacy Update

SNA has been fighting hard for the legislative and policy priorities that ensure adequate funding and reasonable regulations so you can do what you do best – keep kids nourished and ready to learn! Half-way through the year, 2018 school nutrition advocacy shows no signs of slowing. Read a recap of the exciting progress we've made, including new funding, education efforts, and program simplification, on the SNA [website](#).

3. House and Senate Pass 2018 Farm Bill

The House and the Senate each passed versions of a 2018 Farm Bill in June. The [House version](#), which contained controversial provisions passed by a slim 213-211 margin. The Senate bill, which was drafted by the top Republican and Democrat on the Agriculture committee, passed with a bipartisan 86-11 vote. The two chambers will now form a conference committee in July to reconcile the two bills. [Subscribe to Tuesday Morning](#) to get legislative updates from SNA!

4. USDA Distributes \$30 million in Equipment Grants

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) [announced](#) the distribution of \$30 million in funding for equipment grants to state agencies. Eligible School Food Authorities (SFAs) that receive the grants can use them to purchase equipment that are needed to serve healthier school meals, improve food safety, and expand access to school meals.



5. USDA Announces Program Flexibilities for the 2018-19 School Year

In June the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) [announced](#) flexibilities for Child Nutrition Program (CNP) operators during the upcoming 2018-19 school year. The Department will continue allowing state agencies to grant whole grain requirement waivers at their discretion, Target 1 will remain the Sodium limit for breakfast and lunch programs, and flavored, low-fat milk can be offered as part of a reimbursable meal or as an a la carte item.