



## SNAC Bites – May 2015

Welcome to the May 2015 issue of SNA Communication (SNAC) Bites! SNAC Bites highlights new SNA programs and provides content for your state association newsletters, chapter meetings, and social media.

This issue includes:

1. [SNA is Your Resource for Professional Standards](#)
2. [Upcoming SNA Webinars: CEP, Professional Standards, and More](#)
3. [Early Bird Deadline Extended for ANC in Salt Lake City!](#)
4. [Congratulations to the SNA Award Winners!](#)
5. [Senators Hoeven and King Introduce Healthy School Meals Flexibility Act](#)
6. [SNA Seeking Nominations for National Board and Standing Committees](#)
7. [Recruit for SNA This Spring and You Could Win!](#)
8. [SNA President Testifies on School Meal Successes and Challenges](#)
9. [New State Policy Resource: Summaries of Each State](#)
10. [Calling All SNA Chapter Leaders: Get Ideas to Revitalize Your Group!](#)
11. [Share Your STEPS Victory](#)
12. [Let's Get Social in Salt Lake!](#)
13. [Child Nutrition Programs Income Eligibility Guidelines](#)
14. [SY2015-16 Free/Reduced Application Prototype and Materials](#)
15. [Washington Post Weighs In On the Salt Debate](#)
16. [Let's Make Our State the Giving Champion for 2015!](#)
17. [SNA Past Presidents' Recipes with Love Cookbook Available at Reduced Price](#)

### 1. SNA is Your Resource for Professional Standards

The final USDA Professional Standards rule for foodservice directors, managers, school nutrition staff and state agency directors is here and effective July 1, 2015. To help with implementation of the new standards, SNA has created several useful resources, available on our dedicated [USDA Professional Standards](#) webpage. Here, you will also find links to the USDA's own resources, including the new [USDA Training Tracking Tool](#).

Did you know you can meet continuing education requirements towards Professional Standards for SY 2015-16 at the upcoming 2015 ANC? Attendees will also have access to an electronic tracking form to track all their training at ANC related to professional standards.

And to learn about how SNA's Certificate and Credentialing programs can help you meet continuing education requirements, join us at 2:00 pm ET on Wednesday, May 27 for the free [How SNA's Professional Development Programs Can Help You Meet Professional Standards](#) webinar. Click [here](#) to register. If you have any questions about professional standards, please contact us at [education@schoolnutrition.org](mailto:education@schoolnutrition.org)

### 2. Upcoming SNA Webinars: CEP, Professional Standards, and More

Learn about hot topics in school nutrition and earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) with SNA's popular professional development webinars. Upcoming webinars include:

- **Wednesday, May 13 at 3:00pm EST:** [Community Eligibility Provision: Beyond the Basics](#)
- **Wednesday, May 27 at 2:00pm EST:** [How SNA's Professional Development Programs Can Help You Meet Professional Standards](#)

Participation in each of these webinars is worth 1 SNA CEU towards professional standards. For a full listing of upcoming SNA webinars and an archive of previous SNA webinar recordings and presentations, please visit: <https://schoolnutrition.org/Webinars/>.



### **3. Early Bird Deadline Extended for ANC in Salt Lake City!**

You have one more week to take advantage of the early bird registration to attend the school nutrition event of the year: SNA's Annual National Conference (ANC) in Salt Lake City, July 12-15, 2015. ANC will feature training sessions addressing the nuts and bolts of school nutrition, as well as hot topics from professional standards, CEP, procurement, marketing, breakfast, and much more!

Did you know you can meet continuing education requirements towards Professional Standards for SY 2015-16 at the upcoming 2015 ANC? Attendees will also have access to an electronic tracking form to track all their training at ANC related to professional standards. Be sure to register by May 15th to take advantage of the early bird rate for ANC - register at [www.schoolnutrition.org/ANC](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/ANC)

### **4. Congratulations to the SNA Award Winners!**

The SNA Awards highlight leaders in all facets of school meal program operations and represent the vast array of professionals going above and beyond in their commitment to improve and expand access to healthy school meals. This year, SNA recognizes state, regional, and national winners of the Employee of the Year Award, Manager of the Year Award, and Director of the Year Award. All winners will be recognized at the Red Carpet Awards Ceremony at SNA's Annual National Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah on Sunday, July 12 at 10:00am. For a complete listing of all SNA winners, [click here](#). We would like to congratulate our state winners: [ADD INFORMATION ABOUT STATE WINNER(S) HERE]

### **5. Senators Hoeven and King Introduce Healthy School Meals Flexibility Act**

On May 1, 2015 Senators John Hoeven (R-ND) and Angus King (I-ME) introduced the bipartisan [Healthy School Meals Flexibility Act \(S.1146\)](#) in the Senate. This bill would provide permanent flexibility to aid schools in complying with the USDA's sodium and whole grain requirements under the National School Lunch and Breakfast programs. The legislation does not change any other current requirements for calories, fruits or vegetables. [Use your SNA Take Action account to contact your legislators](#) and urge them to support the Healthy School Meals Flexibility Act.

### **6. SNA Seeking Nominations for National Board and Standing Committees**

Serving on the SNA national board or on a SNA national committee offers exciting opportunities to grow professionally, develop new skills, work on issues from a national perspective and make a contribution to the school nutrition profession. The SNA Nominating Committee is currently seeking nominations for open Board of Directors and Nominating Committee positions for the 2015 election. To submit a nomination for one or more of the open positions, please complete the [Potential Candidate Recommendation Form](#) and submit it to SNA headquarters by May 30, 2015. For questions, please contact Jean Geraghty at [jgeraghty@schoolnutrition.org](mailto:jgeraghty@schoolnutrition.org) or (800) 877-8822, ext. 135.

### **7. Recruit for SNA This Spring and You Could Win!**

If you bring in 5 or more new members to SNA this school year (by May 31, 2015), you will be entered in a raffle to win an all-expenses paid spa day for two or 1 of 7 complimentary registrations to ANC 2016! For more information about the Annual Membership Campaign and how you can win big by recruiting, [click here](#).

### **8. SNA President Testifies on School Meal Successes and Challenges**

On April 15, SNA President Julia Bauscher, SNS, testified before the House Education and Workforce Committee on the value that school meal programs provide students and the importance of meal program viability. Bauscher shared successes and challenges that school nutrition professionals have encountered as they meet new regulations on school meals and snacks. [Read her written testimony, submitted to the Committee](#).



[Learn more on the hearing, including a link to the archived webcast.](#)

### **9. New State Policy Resource: Summaries of Each State**

Each state has its own unique set of rules and regulations to navigate, along with the federal mandates that all states are required to meet. SNA has pulled together summaries of each state's policies, information on the legislative calendar and lobbying rules to help those interested in addressing policy changes going forward.

To see how your state stacks up, please visit [our website](#). If you see any changes that need to be made or have questions, please contact the SNA Director of State Government Affairs at [nwestin@schoolnutrition.org](mailto:nwestin@schoolnutrition.org).

### **10. Calling All SNA Chapter Leaders: Get Ideas to Revitalize Your Group!**

Need ideas to reinvigorate your chapter? Want to network with other chapter leaders from across the country? [Chapter Leadership Day \(CLD\)](#) is a unique event just for you! If you're a local or state SNA chapter leader, don't miss this annual interactive, informative and fun event led by JoAnne Robinett, MSA, SNS of America's Meal Child Nutrition Consulting and Training, and Kathy Burrill, SNS, Director of Food Service for Chisago Lakes Area Schools. CLD will take place on Saturday, July 11, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm at SNA's [Annual National Conference](#) in Salt Lake City, UT. Hear tips on developing a strong leadership team, planning great meetings, building membership, and more. Registration is required. The cost is \$25, which includes breakfast.

### **11. Share Your STEPS Victory**

Are you participating in the STEPS Challenge? Share your success via our [Small Victories Sweepstakes](#). Just upload your STEPS story and a photo if you can. You'll automatically be entered for a chance to win all-expenses paid trip for two to attend [ANC Salt Lake City](#)! Sweepstakes ends May 31, 2015. For details and official rules, visit [www.schoolnutrition.org/STEPS](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/STEPS).

### **12. Let's Get Social in Salt Lake!**

Have you heard about SNA's [Let's Get Social](#) education series? Members can take advantage of webinars and presentations to help you improve your social media skills. If you're planning on attending ANC, remember that the next Let's Get Social offering will be a [Social Media Bootcamp pre-con](#) at [ANC Salt Lake City](#), with social media guru Dayle Hayes!

### **13. Child Nutrition Programs Income Eligibility Guidelines**

Adjusted eligibility guidelines to free and reduced price meals and free milk for the period from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, have been posted. The typical annual income limit for a family of four to qualify for reduced-price meals in the next school year is \$44,863 (although that number is higher in Alaska and Hawaii), up \$740 from last year. [Click here](#) to read the Federal Register notice containing the income eligibility guidelines.

### **14. SY2015-16 Free/Reduced Application Prototype and Materials**

The USDA has provided an updated prototype application for free and reduced price school meals with accompanying materials, including a parent letter and instructions to apply. [Click here](#) to access all materials

### **15. Washington Post Weighs In On the Salt Debate**

Most agree that for people with high blood pressure, eating too much salt could be detrimental to their health. The debate starts when professors, doctors and medical associations disagree on how much is 'too much'. [Click here](#) to read the *Washington Post's* rundown on how modern science may suggest that the one-size-fits-all advice to lower sodium could be outdated.



**16. Let's Make Our State the Giving Champion for 2015!**

The state association (one in each of the three SNA membership divisions) with the highest percentage participation in giving to the SNF Annual Fund in 2015 will win two reserved seats for the ANC Entertainment in San Antonio in 2016. For your chance to win, contribute at least \$10 to the 2015 SNF Annual Fund and become a part of the *2015 Individual Giving Campaign: Lighting the Way*. By donating, you can help “Light the Way” to professional development, research to support “best practices”, and scholarships for SNA members. [Click here](#) to give online. Want to become a fundraiser for our state? You can set up your personal fundraising page for the campaign by [clicking here](#).

**17. SNA Past Presidents' Recipes with Love Cookbook Available at Reduced Price**

The price of the SNA Past President's Cookbook has been reduced from \$22 to \$15 (includes shipping and handling). To order your cookbook, [click here](#).

*We hope SNAC Bites is a helpful tool for you as a state leader.  
For questions or feedback, contact [StateSupport@schoolnutrition.org](mailto:StateSupport@schoolnutrition.org).*