



SNAC Bites – September 2015

Welcome to the September 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.

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1. SNA's 2015 School Nutrition Trends Survey

In June and July, SNA director-level members were invited to participate in SNA's 2015 School Nutrition Trends Survey. Yesterday, SNA released the findings of this survey, which highlighted the tremendous efforts members have made to promote healthier choices to students, as well as the financial challenges programs have faced since updated nutrition standards took effect. For more information, SNA members are encouraged to review the [survey](#) and the [press release](#). Thank you to all who participated in the survey and shared vital information about your program.

2. Back to School, Back to Learning with SNA Webinars

Join us for SNA's Talk Tuesday and Webinar Wednesday series. SNA webinars are here to help you gain useful and important information that impacts you day-to-day. Check out the upcoming webinars and be sure to frequently check the [SNA Webinars page](#) for updates and new topics:

- Wed, Sept 9: [Breakfast in the Classroom Stakeholder Engagement: How to Win Friends and Influence People](#)
- Tues, Sept 15: [Successful State Association and Local Chapter Board Management](#)
- Wed, Sept 30: [Navigating Professional Standards](#)

All webinars are held at 2pm Eastern Time (1pmCT/Noon MT/11am PT). For more information and to access the webinar archive, please visit schoolnutrition.org/Webinars.



3. Call for Nominations to SNA Board and Leadership Development Committee!

The recruitment process for national office positions for the February 2016 election is still open! SNA needs members with strong leadership skills, outstanding professional achievements and a record of active participation in their state association and at SNA to lead the association in the future. The following positions are now:

- At Large Director (3 positions)
- Northeast Regional Director
- Northwest Regional Director
- Midwest Region Representative on Leadership Development Committee
- West Region Representative on Leadership Development Committee

Please consider the leadership talent you observe and work with in your school district, local chapter and across the state. Nominate yourself or someone else by completing and submitting the [Potential Candidate Recommendation form](#) by September 25, 2015. For questions, please contact Leah Schmidt, Chair, SNA Leadership Development Committee at (816) 671-4000 leah.schmidt@sjsd.k12.us or Jean Geraghty, SNA Chief of Staff, at jgeraghty@schoolnutrition.org or (800) 877-8822, ext. 135.

4. Last Call for ANC 2016 Proposals

The Call for Proposals for ANC 2016 in San Antonio, Texas is now open. The ANC 2016 program planning committee is inviting you to share your expertise and experience with the school nutrition community. The Program Chairs are looking for:

- Innovative topics and practical takeaways in school nutrition
- 60 minute roundtable discussion or 60 minute education session topics
- Presentations that highlight one of the four key areas: nutrition, operations, administration, or communications/marketing

To submit your proposal, complete the "Call for Proposals" (CFP) application at <https://schoolnutrition.org/cfp16>. **Submission deadline is October 2, 2015.**

5. Is School District Owned Membership Right for You and Your Staff?

SNA offers a valuable membership option called School District (or State Agency) Owned Membership (SDM) as an alternative to standard individual memberships. A SDM is a membership that is owned by a school district in the name of an individual and is transferable to another employee if the original assignee leaves or retires. The **goal of SDM is to make it easier for your school district to pay for and centrally manage memberships** while also allowing employees to enjoy the many benefits of SNA membership. Benefits of SDM include:

- Ability to transfer memberships.
- Ability to align all of your memberships to expire the same month.
- Ability to receive a group invoice for your memberships.
- Ability for a designated main contact to log into his/her online SNA account and view entire SDM roster
- Free Memberships for New SDMs: SNA is currently offering an incentive for new employee or manager members. For every 5 new employee members, you receive 1 free new employee-level membership. And for every 5 new managers, you receive 1 free new manager-level membership!

For more information about SDM or to get started, please visit: www.schoolnutrition.org/sdm or contact SNA at sdm@schoolnutrition.org.



6. Help Us, Help You - Update Your Contact Information with SNA!

Making sure that SNA has your correct mailing address, email address, and phone number will help you get the most out of your membership. This will ensure that you receive your membership and/or certificate renewals, the *School Nutrition* magazine and get the latest news and updates emailed to you from SNA!

Staying in touch with SNA can be easy! Go to www.schoolnutrition.org and click on the red **Login to My Account** button in the upper right-hand corner. Enter your user name and password to login or click **Member Registration** to create an account. Once logged in, click on the **Member Record** tab and select **Member Contact Information**. Update any needed information and click **Save Changes**. Need help? Contact the SNA Service Center at (800) 877-8822 or servicecenter@schoolnutrition.org for assistance.

7. 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](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/USDAProfessionalStandards) webpage. Here, you will also find links to the USDA's own resources, including the new [USDA Training Tracking Tool](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/USDATrainingTrackingTool) and the [Professional Standards Training Guidelines](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/ProfessionalStandardsTrainingGuidelines) exclusively for SNA members and SNA state affiliates. If you have any questions about professional standards, please contact the SNA Professional Development Team at education@schoolnutrition.org.

8. School Lunch Snapshot: Capture Yours

Mark your calendar for National School Lunch Week: October 12-16, 2015. This year's theme, "School Lunch Snapshot" is all about taking and sharing great photos of real school lunches! Visit www.schoolnutrition.org/NSLW for tips and ideas to get started planning your celebration. You can also shop online for NSLW merchandise for your staff and students by [clicking here](#).

9. Let's Recruit and Win! Join the 2015 Back to School Membership Drive

Our state association is participating in this year's [Back to School Membership Drive](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/BacktoSchoolMembershipDrive), and we could win big! This drive began on September 1, 2015 and will end on November 30, 2015. Our state association could win a free registration to National Leadership Conference 2016 in Baltimore- so, help us recruit more members.

You could be a winner, too! Recruit five or more new members between **June 1, 2015** and **May 31, 2016** and you will be automatically entered into a drawing to win 1 of 5 VIP registrations to SNA's 2017 Annual National Conference (ANC) in Atlanta, Ga.*. Let's [recruit](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/recruit) and win together! Visit www.schoolnutrition.org/recruit for more information and complete rules.

**VOID WHERE RESTRICTED OR PROHIBITED BY LAW.*

10. Become a VIP @ ANC in ATL 2017

Help SNA recruit new members and your reward could be the chance to win a VIP registration to ANC 2017! Recruit five or more new members between **June 1, 2015** and **May 31, 2016** and you will be automatically entered into a drawing to win 1 of 5 VIP registrations to SNA's 2017 Annual National Conference (ANC) in Atlanta, Ga.* Make sure the new member writes your name in the referral section of the membership application form, otherwise it won't count! Recruited someone new to SNA? Tell us on social media using the hashtag #SNAREcruiter!* *This prize drawing is not available in any state or local jurisdiction where prohibited or restricted by law.*



11. STEPS Returns this September!

Attention, STEPS Challenge fans: monthly challenges return September 1. Be sure to participate in the [September challenge](#) and earn points all month long for walking – the simplest form of exercise there is! Participants are eligible to win prizes at the end of the challenges. Learn more and get started at www.schoolnutrition.org/STEPS.

12. Mark Your Calendar for SNA Legislative Action Conference 2016

It's hard to believe but summer is already winding down and many of us are in full swing planning for the school year ahead. Don't forget to make room on your calendars for the 2016 Legislative Action Conference (LAC) to be held February 28 through March 1, 2016! The 2015 Legislative Action Conference will be held just after the 2015 Child Nutrition Reauthorization scheduled for this fall. There will be plenty to learn and lots to network over with your colleagues! Whether you're new to the school nutrition field or a veteran, everyone can benefit from getting involved in school meal policy and legislation. There's also plenty of fun to be had! The beloved satirical group, [The Capitol Steps](#) will be making an appearance! Start making room on your calendars now for this can't-miss school nutrition event.

13. Nominate a 2016 School Nutrition Hero!

The third annual Celebration of School Nutrition Heroes will be held on Monday, February 29, 2016, at the Marriott Marquis in Washington, DC, during SNA's Legislative Action Conference (LAC). Your assistance is needed in identifying the men and women in SNA who have gone above and beyond their daily responsibilities to make a difference in their schools, communities, and beyond. Please nominate the person who often goes unnoticed, but who has made a significant difference in the lives of others. [Click here](#) to learn more and please complete the [nomination form](#) to tell us about a member of SNA who you believe is the example of a School Nutrition Hero. **The deadline for nominations is Friday, October 23, 2015.**

14. Attend SNA's LAC 2016 with SNF Scholarship

Would you like to attend SNA's [Legislative Action Conference \(LAC\)](#) in Washington, DC on February 28 – March 1, 2016 to learn from Washington insiders and join the annual Charge to the Hill? The [School Nutrition Foundation](#) is now accepting applications for the [Josephine Martin National Policy Fellow](#)! The Fellow will get to attend LAC with expenses up to \$3,000 paid and be recognized at the event. To apply, you must:

- Be an active SNA employee or manager section member, who has been a SNA member for at least three years, as of LAC 2016 (since no later than March 1, 2013)
- Have never previously attended LAC
- Be interested in child nutrition policy
- **Submit an [online application](#) by Monday, November 16.** Please preview the form before applying.

Director-level members are **not** eligible for this fellowship. For questions, please contact scholarships@schoolnutrition.org or (800) 877-8822.



15. Invite Your Member of Congress to Your School and Enter the LAC 2016 Sweepstakes!

As the new school year is upon us, now is the time to invite your Member of Congress to visit your school cafeteria! You can enter to win one free trip for two to the 2016 Legislative Action Conference (LAC) and participate in SNA's Annual Charge to the Hill! Last year's Cafeteria Site Visit Sweepstakes was a huge success, but we hope to surpass it with even more Members of Congress seeing firsthand the incredible work SNA members accomplish every single day. Need assistance with hosting a Cafeteria Site Visit? Check out SNA's [Cafeteria Visit Toolkit](#).

To enter the Cafeteria Site Visit Sweepstakes, simply invite a Member of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives to your school and provide proof of the invitation or visit (email, photos, video, news stories, etc.) to SNA by **December 31, 2015**. We will accept all invitations dated back to July 1, 2015. [Click here](#) for more information on how to enter or read the [Sweepstakes Rules](#).

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 by midnight on 12/31/2015 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. You can also set up a fundraising page for SNF and invite your colleagues to join the campaign. It's easy – just [click here](#).

17. Submit Your FAME Nomination

Do you know of a school nutrition leader or innovator who deserves to be nominated for a national Foodservice Achievement Management Excellence (FAME) Award? While back-to-school season is always a very busy time for school nutrition professionals, you don't want to miss this special opportunity to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of colleagues in your district, state or even across the country. (You also can work with your supervisor on submitting your own nomination!) The deadline for nominations is **October 8, 2015**.

The FAME Awards, offered in six categories, recognize those who raise the school nutrition bar for others to follow. These are individuals who have triumphed over challenges and provided insightful and innovative solutions to the complex issues that are the hallmark of this business. If this describes you, your supervisor or a colleague, take the time to submit a nomination at www.fameawards.net before your busy back-to-school schedule takes over. The FAME awards are sponsored by Basic American Foods, Schwan's Food Service, Inc. and Tyson Foods, Inc. Visit the FAME Awards website for more details.

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