

NUTRITION NEWS

Helpful Hints & Tips | SFSP Edition XVII

• Grant Opportunity for SFAs •

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Football League (NFL), the National Dairy Council, and GENYouth's Fuel Up to Play 60 program announced \$35 million in grants to help schools upgrade kitchen equipment to be able to better serve nutritious foods.

The purpose of these grants is to help School Nutrition Directors purchase equipment that will enhance the long-term implementation of their school breakfast and lunch programs.

Schools may apply individually, or districts may apply for multiple schools within their district. Each school involved in the application may apply for up to \$5,000 in equipment.

The online application opens early March 2016 with a deadline to apply of June 30, 2016.

For more information click [here](#). For questions and assistance with the application, contact your local dairy council, the Southeast United Dairy Industry Association, Inc. at (770) 996-6085.

Note that this opportunity is available only to schools, school districts, and School Food Authorities (SFAs).

• 2016 Targeted Counties •

As you kick your planning into high gear for the summer season, consider expanding your meal service to one of the nine targeted counties across the state this year. Targeted Counties are counties where no summer meals were served through the SFSP or the Georgia Department of Education's Seamless Summer Option (SSO).

Calhoun	Lanier	Seminole
Clinch	Oglethorpe	Taliaferro
Glascock	Schley	Webster

With a focus on increasing access and participation in the program, DECAL wants to ensure that all children in every county in the state have access to nutritious and well-balanced summer meals.

If you provide meals in a county close to one of the targeted counties, consider expanding your meal service operations. For other expansion ideas contact Shani Drake, Marketing & Outreach Manager at shani.drake@decals.ga.gov.

• Application Deadline Dates •

To ensure adequate time to review the application and to prepare for upcoming SFSP operations, DECAL encourages sponsors to complete and submit the application within 45 days of the start of summer meal service and no later than June 15th.

Failure to submit a complete application by the deadline date may delay approval of the application. Refer to the FY 2016 SFSP Application Instruction Booklet for detailed instructions on completing the application. The instruction booklet is available via DECAL's website [here](#) or may be retrieved from the FY 2016 SFSP flash drive provided at annual training.

• Release of DECAL's GA ATLAS System •

DECAL's GA ATLAS (Access, Training and Learning Application System) is up and running and providing SFSP sponsors a more user-friendly system that will allow 1) access to training registration and webinar or web-based training sessions 2) one application for CACFP and SFSP 3) claims submission and processing, and 4) the compliance review system.

Sponsors must complete all training requirements to receive access to the GA ATLAS system. Training requirements for experienced sponsors in 2016 include completing a one-day renewal training. Training requirements for new sponsors include a two-day program orientation and training. Both new and experienced sponsors will be required to complete "How to Complete the Application in GA ATLAS" training. Web-based tutorials will also be available for SFSP sponsors on the DECAL website [here](#). Note that these tutorials are not a substitution for training.

"How to Complete the Application in GA ATLAS" training dates are listed below. Registration is now open. To register, contact Leslie Truman at 404.657.1779. Seating is limited; therefore, sponsors are encouraged to register as soon as possible. (Note: training sessions are half-day.)

Date	Location	City	Time
March 30, 2016 (2 sessions)	Central GA Technical College - Building 1 Computer Lab	Macon, GA	9:00am-12:00pm 1:30pm-4:30pm
April 13, 2016 (2 sessions)	GA Southern University - Lane Conference Center	Statesboro, GA	9:00am-12:00pm 1:30pm-4:30pm
May 4, 2016 (2 sessions)	Atlanta Technical College - Dennard Building	Atlanta, GA	9:00am-12:00pm 1:30pm-4:30pm
May 11, 2016 (2 sessions)	GA State University - Instruction Tech Center	Atlanta, GA	9:00am-12:00pm 1:30pm-4:30pm

• Welcome CALi to DECAL •



DECAL has introduced a new spokespuppy, named CALi! As DECAL's Goodwill Ambassador, CALi will travel around the state bringing sunshine, hugs, and lots of smiles to help raise awareness about the quality of early care and education that includes physical activity and nutritious eating habits!

CALi will appear at various events across the state, and may even appear at some of our summer kick-offs this year.

Welcome to the DECAL family, CALi!

• Ready to Kick Summer into High Gear? •

Are you an experienced sponsor focused on providing incomparable summer meals at sites with large numbers of children? If so, one of your sites could serve as a location for a SFSP kickoff event. SFSP kickoff events are generally day-long events that raise awareness about the SFSP by bringing community leaders, sponsors, parents and children together.

Multiple organizations and agencies come together to highlight the purpose of the program and its importance as a resource in the community.

If you would like to host a kickoff at one of your summer meal sites, contact Shani Drake, Marketing & Outreach Manager at shani.drake@decal.ga.gov.