

Data on Participation in Healthy Food Certification (HFC) for School Year 2019-20



Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education



Districts that implement HFC under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes must follow the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable school meals



HFC Participation for School Year 2019-20

- 180 school districts/schools
- 93.3 percent of eligible districts/schools
- 11 districts are either new (6) or returning (5)
- 98 percent recertification rate

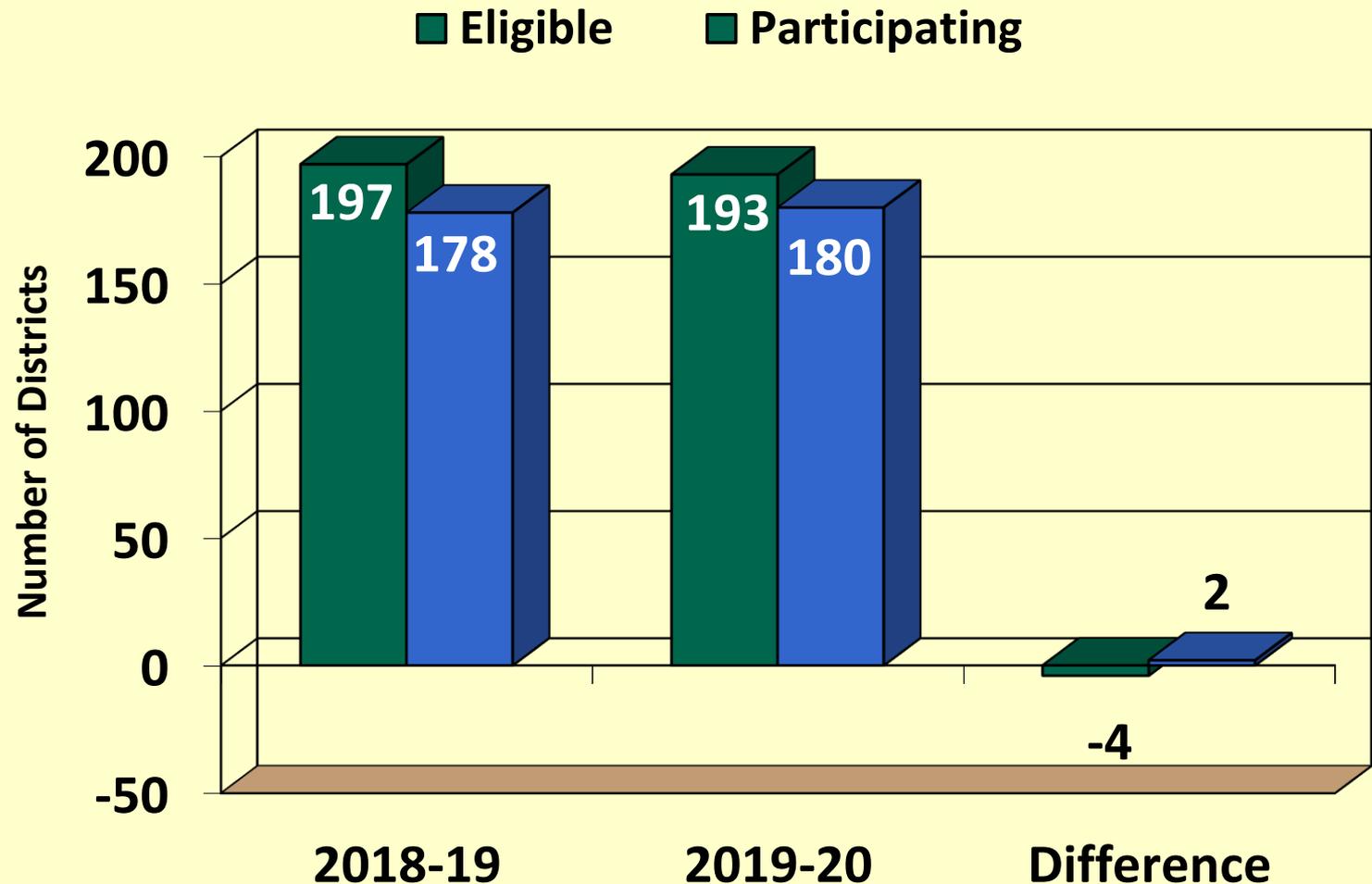


HFC Participation for School Year 2019-20

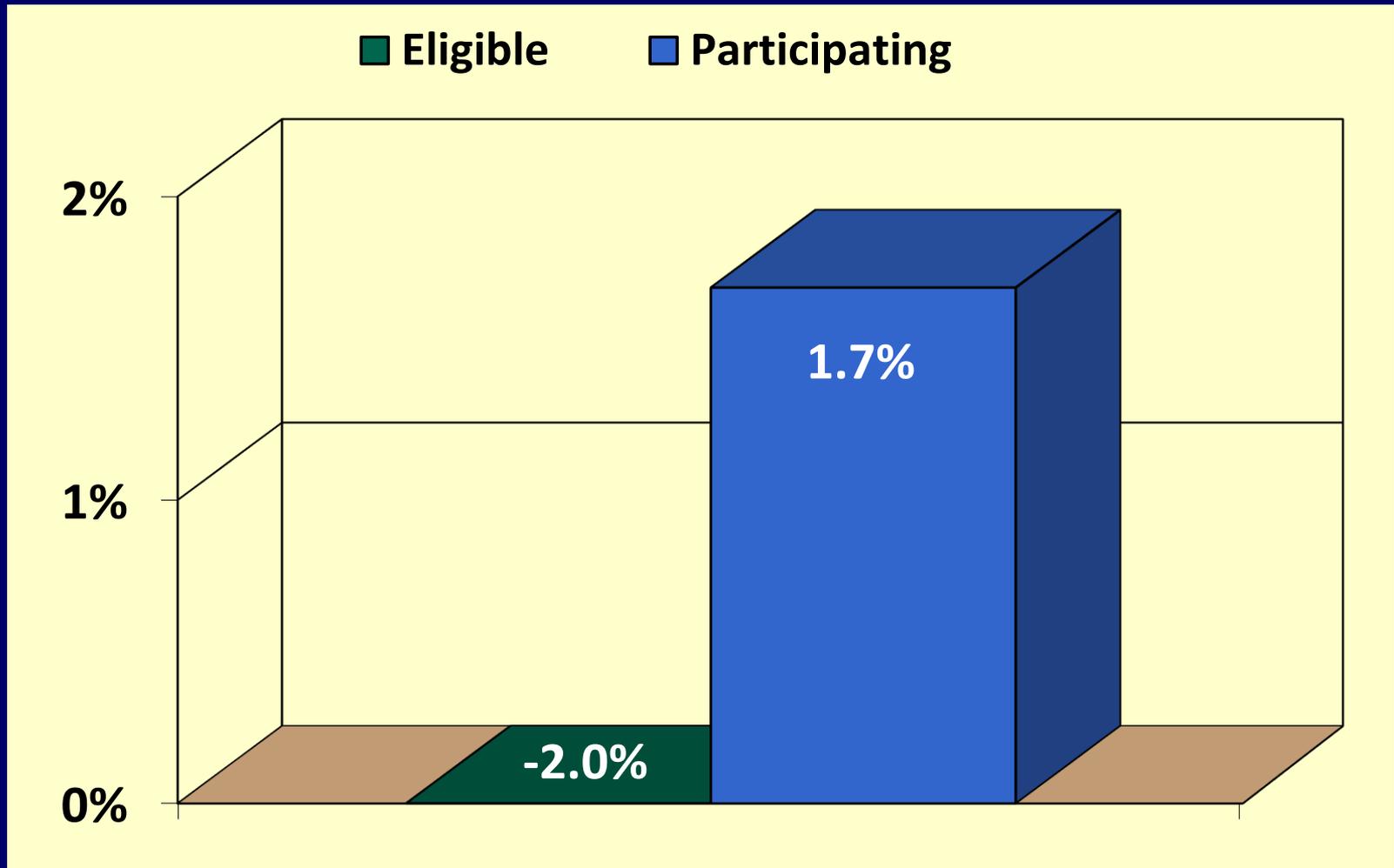
- Highest HFC participation since HFC began
- 3.2 percent increase from school year 2018-19
- 84 percent increase from first year (2006-07)



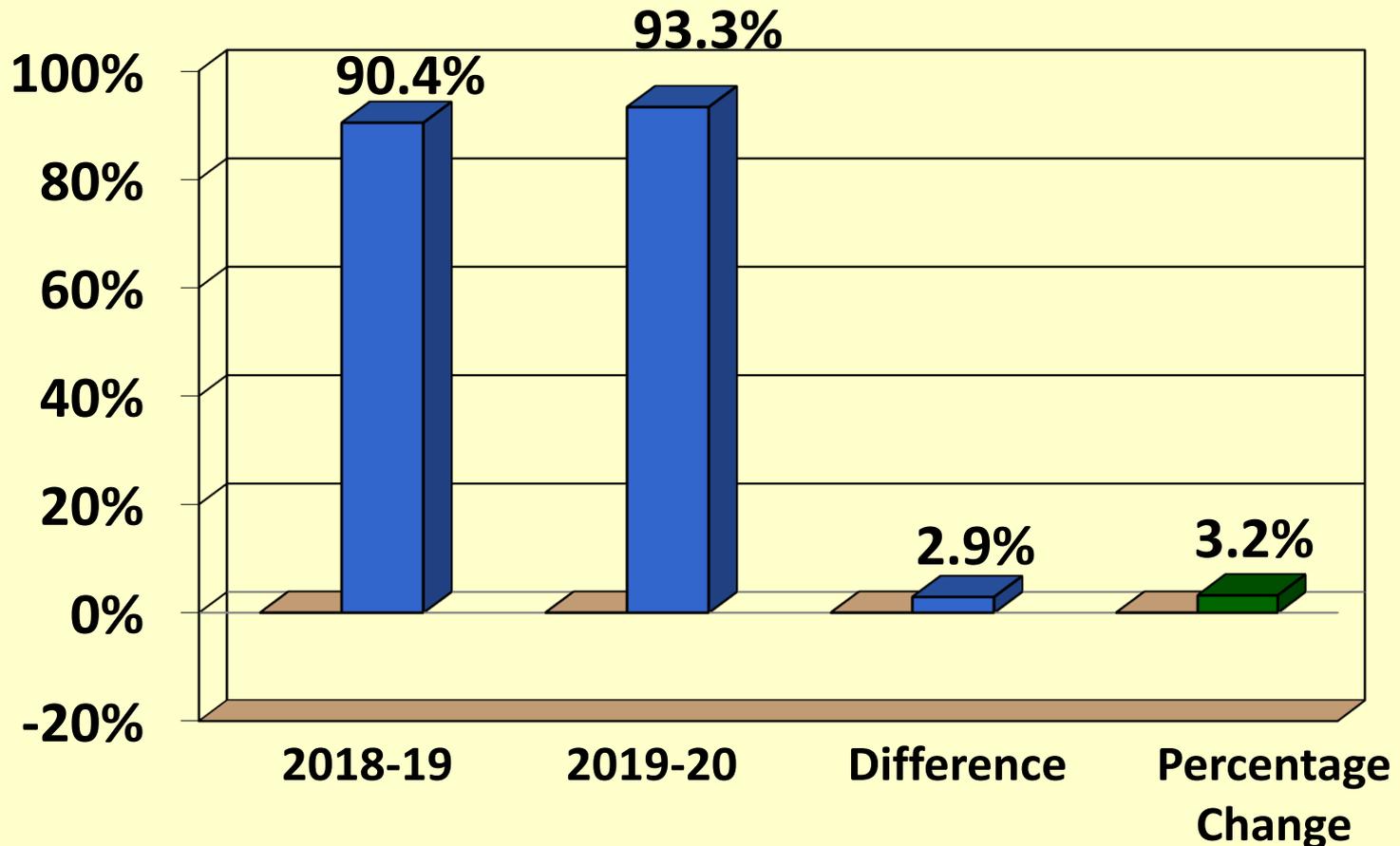
Number of eligible versus participating districts for HFC (2017-18 to 2019-20)



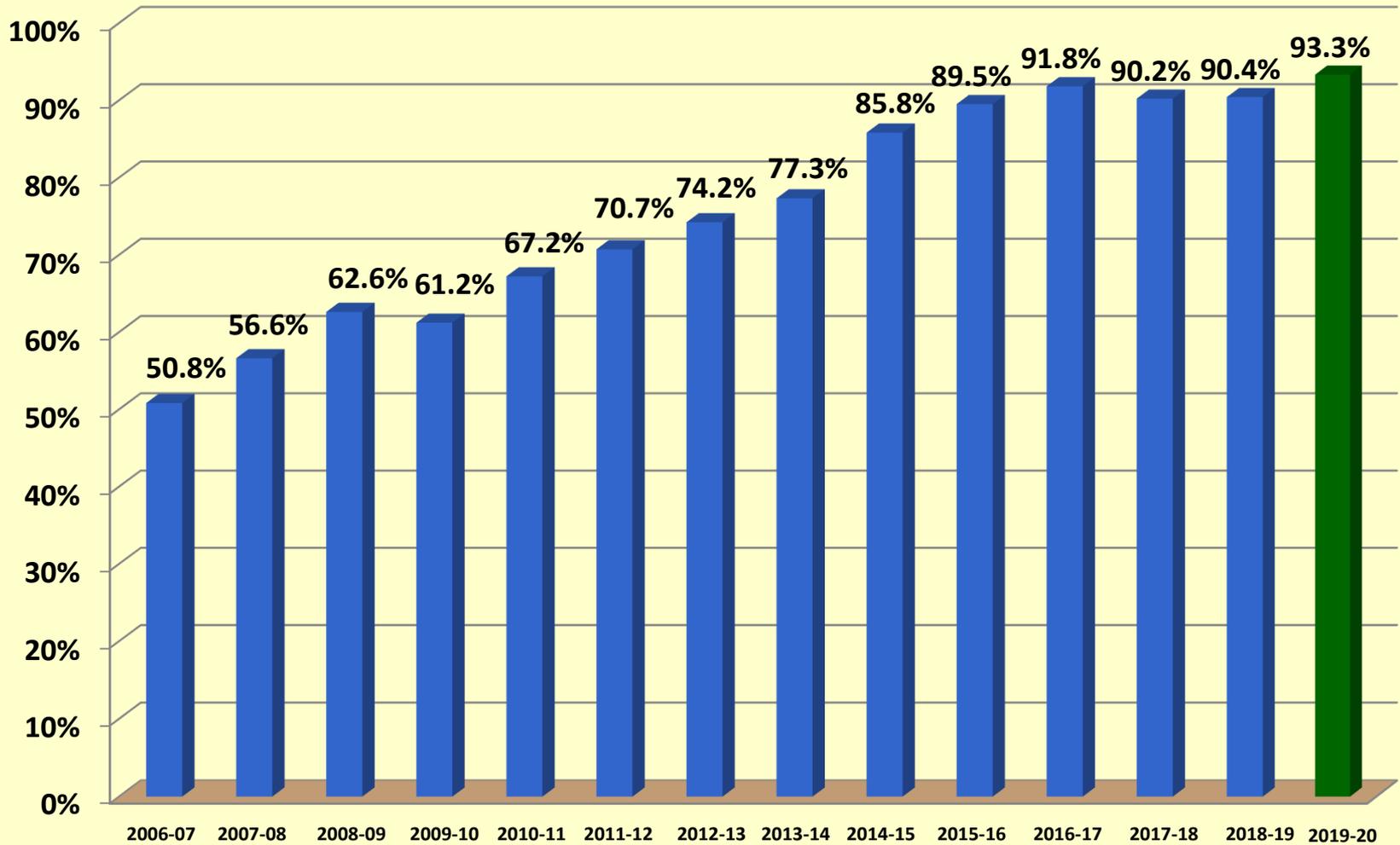
Percent change in eligible versus participating HFC districts (2018-19 to 2019-20)



Change in HFC participation from 2017-18 to 2019-20

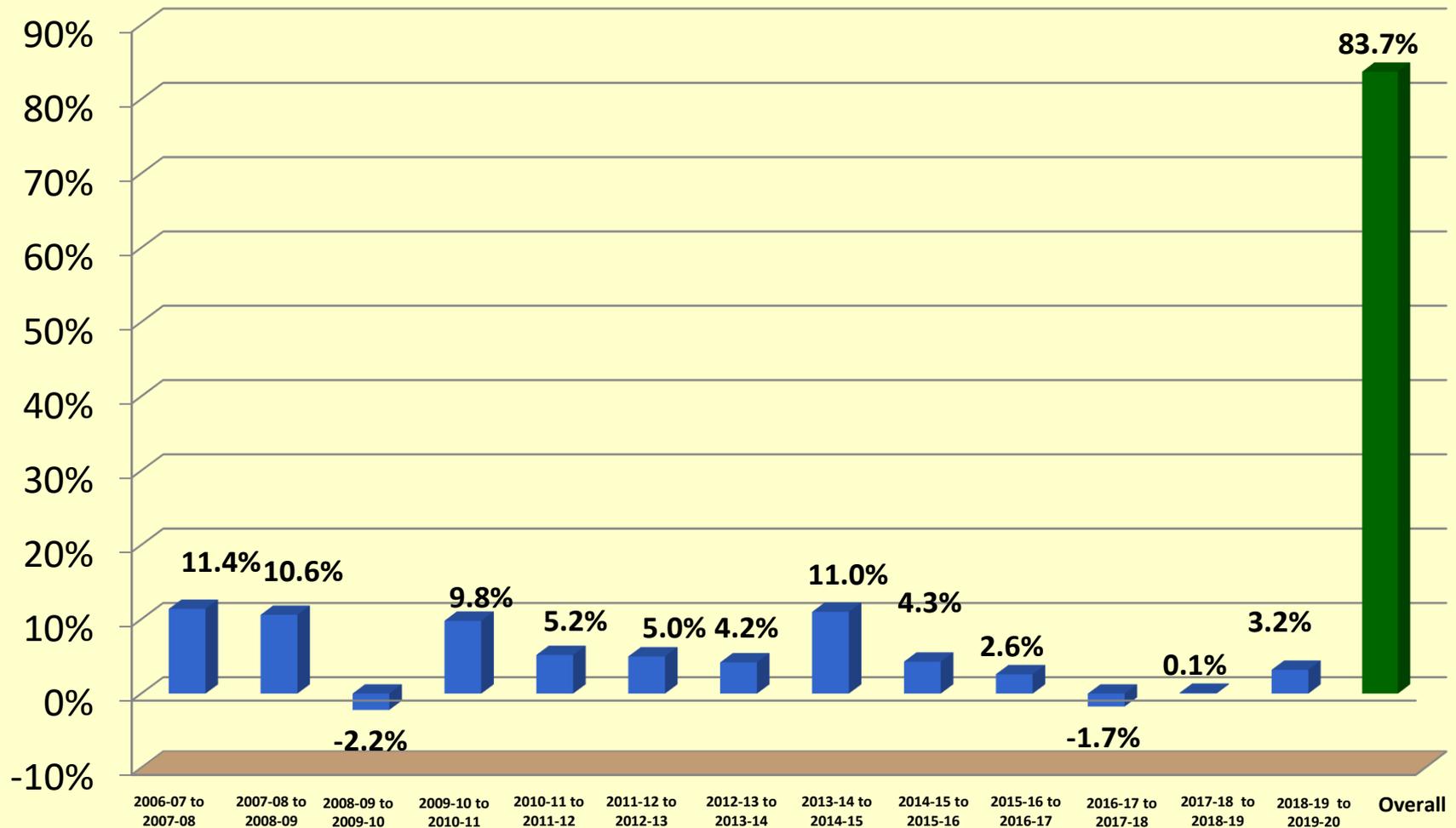


HFC participation to date



2018-19

Percent change in HFC participation to date



HFC Districts for School Year 2019-20

Healthy Food Certification Participation for School Year 2019-20

School districts that choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes must follow the [Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#) for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable school meals. For school year 2019-20, 181 of the 194 eligible districts and schools (93.3 percent) are implementing the healthy food option of HFC. Eligible districts for HFC are public school districts that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Public school districts include the Connecticut Technical High School System, charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, endowed academies, and regional educational service centers.

HFC districts that are new to HFC or have returned to HFC for school year 2019-20 are indicated in bold. Schools that participate in the NSLP through an interschool agreement with another school district may choose to implement the healthy food option of HFC if the sponsoring school district implements HFC. These schools are indicated under "Interschool Agreements" on page 3, with the sponsoring district indicated in parentheses.

School districts not listed have either chosen not to implement HFC or are ineligible for HFC. For more information, see the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) [Map of Connecticut School Districts Participating in HFC](#).

Public School Districts

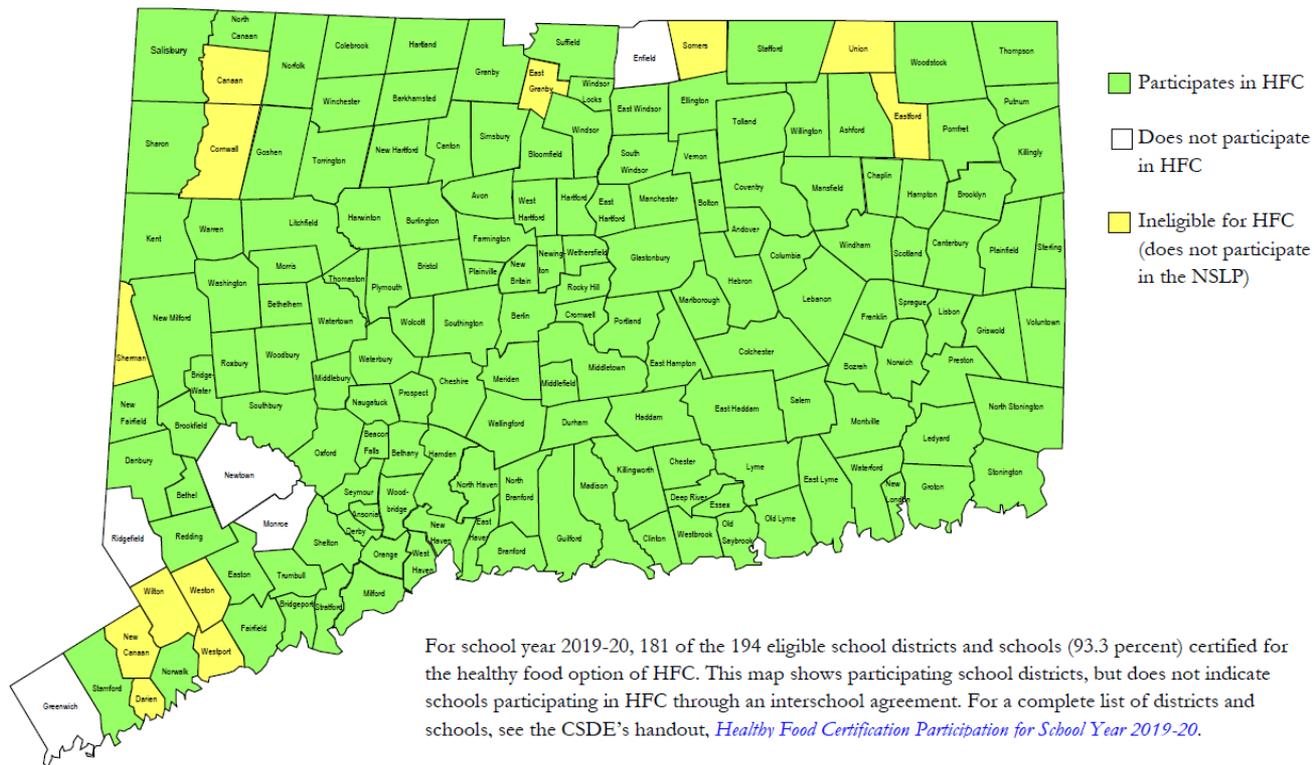
- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Ansonia Public Schools | 22. Colchester Public Schools |
| 2. Ashford Public Schools | 23. Colebrook Public Schools |
| 3. Avon Public Schools | 24. Coventry Public Schools |
| 4. Barkhamsted Public Schools | 25. Cromwell Public Schools |
| 5. Berlin Public Schools | 26. Danbury Public Schools |
| 6. Bethany Public Schools | 27. Deep River Public Schools |
| 7. Bethel Public Schools | 28. Derby Public Schools |
| 8. Bloomfield Public Schools | 29. East Haddam Public Schools |
| 9. Bolton Public Schools | 30. East Hampton Public Schools |
| 10. Bozrah Public Schools | 31. East Hartford Public Schools |
| 11. Branford Public Schools | 32. East Haven Public Schools |
| 12. Bridgeport Public Schools | 33. East Lyme Public Schools |
| 13. Bristol Public Schools | 34. East Windsor Public Schools |
| 14. Brookfield Public Schools | 35. Ellington Public Schools |
| 15. Brooklyn Public Schools | 36. Essex Public Schools |
| 16. Canterbury Public Schools | 37. Fairfield Public Schools |
| 17. Canton Public Schools | 38. Farmington Public Schools |
| 18. Chaplin Public Schools | 39. Franklin Public Schools |
| 19. Cheshire Public Schools | 40. Glastonbury Public Schools |
| 20. Chester Public Schools | 41. Granby Public Schools |
| 21. Clinton Public Schools | 42. Griswold Public Schools |

Connecticut State Department of Education • October 2019 • Page 1 of 8

Map of HFC Districts for School Year 2019-20

Map of Connecticut School Districts Participating in Healthy Food Certification (HFC) for School Year 2019-20

Under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes, HFC requires each board of education or governing authority for all public schools participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP) to certify annually to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) whether they will follow the [Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#). These standards apply to all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable school meals. Public schools include public school districts, regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical High School System, charter schools, interdistrict magnet schools, and endowed academies.



Connecticut State Department of Education • October 2019

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Data/HFCmap.pdf>

CSDE Webpage

Healthy Food Certification

ct.gov Connecticut's Official State Website

Search Connecticut Government...

Language + Settings

CT.GOV HOME / DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION / K-12 EDUCATION / NUTRITION / HEALTHY FOOD CERTIFICATION (HFC)

Healthy Food Certification (HFC)

- Overview
- Eligibility
- Apply
- Documents/Forms
- Related Resources
- Laws/Regulations
- FAQs
- Contact

Provided by:
Department of Education

Overview

[School Nutrition Programs](#) | [Program Guidance](#) | [Forms](#) | [Resources](#) | [Nutrition Education Beverage Requirements](#) | [Competitive Foods](#) | [CNS](#) | [List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages](#)

Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under [Section 10-215f](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes requires that each board of education or governing authority for all public schools participating in the [National School Lunch Program \(NSLP\)](#) must **certify annually** to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) whether the district will follow the [Connecticut Nutrition Standards \(CNS\)](#) for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable school meals.

The CNS applies to all sources of food sales on school premises at all times including, but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises. Districts that choose the healthy food option of HFC receive an additional 10 cents per lunch, based on the total number of reimbursable lunches (paid, free, and reduced) served in the prior school year.

HFC Overview

- [HFC Overview](#)
- [Summary of Connecticut Nutrition Standards](#)

List of HFC Districts (School Year 2019-20)

- [HFC Districts](#)
- [HFC Map](#)
- [HFC Data](#)

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Healthy-Food-Certification>

CSDE Webpage

Connecticut Nutrition Standards

The screenshot displays the official website for the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) regarding the Connecticut Nutrition Standards. The page features a navigation menu on the left with options like 'Overview', 'How To', 'Documents/Forms', 'Related Resources', 'Laws/Regulations', and 'Contact'. The main content area includes an 'Overview' section with a list of links (School Nutrition Programs, Program Guidance, Forms, Resources, Nutrition Education, Healthy Food Certification, Beverage Requirements, List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages) and a detailed text block explaining the standards' purpose and focus areas. A 'CNS Documents' section lists three key documents: a summary document, a full CNS document with rationale and implementation guidance, and a presentation. A blue callout box at the bottom provides a tip on how to evaluate foods for compliance.

Connecticut's Official State Website

Search Connecticut Government...

Language + Settings

CT.GOV HOME / DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION / CONNECTICUT NUTRITION STANDARDS

Connecticut Nutrition Standards

Overview

How To

Documents/Forms

Related Resources

Laws/Regulations

Contact

Provided by:
Department of Education

Overview

[School Nutrition Programs](#) | [Program Guidance](#) | [Forms](#) | [Resources](#) | [Nutrition Education](#) | [Healthy Food Certification](#) | [Beverage Requirements](#) | [List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages](#)

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) developed the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) in response to [Section 10-215e](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires the CSDE to publish a set of nutrition standards for foods offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable school meals in public schools. The CNS focuses on:

- moderating calories;
- limiting fat, saturated fat, sodium, and sugars;
- eliminating trans fat; and
- promoting more nutrient-dense foods such as whole grains, fruits, vegetables, low-fat and nonfat dairy products, lean meats, legumes, and nuts and seeds.

The general standards and nutrients addressed in the CNS are based on current nutrition science and national health recommendations from the [Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#), and national health organizations such as the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine and American Heart Association. The CSDE's state nutrition standards committee reviews the CNS annually, and determines if updates are needed to reflect changes in current nutrition science and national health recommendations.

Public school districts that choose to implement the healthy food option under C.G.S. [Section 10-215f](#) (Healthy Food Certification) must follow the CNS for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable school meals, at all times and from all sources on school premises, including, but not limited to, a la carte sales in the cafeteria, vending machines, school stores, fundraisers, and any other sources of food sales to students. For more information, visit the CSDE's [HFC](#) and [Competitive Foods](#) webpages.

The CNS meets or exceeds the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Smart Snacks nutrition standards for competitive foods. For information on the USDA's Smart Snacks standards, visit the CSDE's [Smart Snacks](#) and [Competitive Foods](#) webpages.

CNS Documents

- [CNS for School Years 2018-19 and 2019-20](#) (Summary Document)
- [CNS for Foods in Schools: School Years 2018-19 and 2019-20](#) (Full CNS document including rationale and implementation guidance)
- [CNS Presentation](#)

For information on how to evaluate foods for compliance with the CNS, go to the "How To" section in the left navigation bar.

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Connecticut-Nutrition-Standards>

CSDE Webpage

Beverage Requirements

The screenshot shows the CSDE website's 'Beverage Requirements' page. At the top, there is a blue header with the 'ct.gov' logo, the text 'Connecticut's Official State Website', a search bar, and a 'Language + Settings' button. Below the header, a breadcrumb trail reads 'CT.GOV HOME / DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION / BEVERAGE REQUIREMENTS'. The main heading is 'Beverage Requirements'. On the left, a navigation menu includes 'Overview' (highlighted), 'Documents/Forms', 'Laws/Regulations', and 'Contact'. The main content area features an 'Overview' section with a sub-heading 'HFC | Competitive Foods | CNS | List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages'. The text explains that Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes governs beverages sold to students in public schools. It also mentions that USDA Smart Snacks nutrition standards apply to beverages sold separately from school meals. The page is provided by the Department of Education.

ct.gov Connecticut's Official State Website

Search Connecticut Government...

Language + Settings

CT.GOV HOME / DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION / BEVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

Beverage Requirements

Overview

Documents/Forms

Laws/Regulations

Contact

Provided by:
Department of Education

Overview

[HFC](#) | [Competitive Foods](#) | [CNS](#) | [List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages](#)

Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) governs beverages sold to students in public schools at all times. It applies to beverages sold as part of school meals and separately from school meals anywhere on school premises, such as cafeteria sales, school stores, vending machines, fundraisers, and any other locations where beverages are sold.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) [Smart Snacks](#) nutrition standards apply to beverages sold to students separately from school meals during the school day on school premises, e.g., cafeteria a la carte sales, school stores, vending machines, fundraisers, and any other locations where beverages are sold. It applies to public schools, private schools, and residential child care institutions (RCCIs) that participate in the USDA school nutrition programs, e.g., [National School Lunch Program \(NSLP\)](#), [School Breakfast Program \(SBP\)](#), [Afterschool Snack Program \(ASP\)](#), and [Special Milk Program \(SMP\)](#).

Public schools must comply with Smart Snacks and the stricter provisions of Connecticut's beverage statute. All schools (public and private) and institutions that participate in the USDA school nutrition programs must also comply with the state [competitive foods regulations](#) (Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23).

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Beverage-Requirements>

CSDE Webpage

List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages

The screenshot shows the CSDE website interface. At the top, there is a header with the 'ct.gov' logo, 'Connecticut's Official State Website', a search bar, and a 'Language + Settings' button. Below the header is a breadcrumb trail: 'CT.GOV HOME / EDUCATION / K-12 EDUCATION / NUTRITION AND MEAL PROGRAMS / LIST OF ACCEPTABLE FOODS AND BEVERAGES'. The main heading is 'List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages'. On the left, there is a navigation menu with 'Overview' selected, and other options: 'Documents/Forms', 'Related Resources', 'Laws/Regulations', and 'Contact'. Below the menu, it says 'Provided by: Department of Education'. The main content area has an 'Overview' section with a list of links: 'School Nutrition Programs | Program Guidance | Forms | Resources | Nutrition Education Beverage Requirements | CNS | Competitive Foods | HFC'. The text explains that the list is a brand-specific list of commercially prepared food products that comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) and beverage requirements of Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.). It also mentions that these products meet the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards. A bulleted list follows, detailing that minimally processed naturally nutrient-rich foods are included, the CSDE encourages schools and vendors to submit new product information, the list is updated every few months, and a vendor contact information list is provided. A final paragraph states that all public schools must comply with the beverage requirements of C.G.S. Section 10, and those choosing Healthy Food Certification under C.G.S. Section 10-215f must follow the CNS for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable school meals. A blue box at the bottom of the content area contains a note: 'Go to the Documents/Forms section in the left navigation bar to access the List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages.'

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/List-of-Acceptable-Foods-and-Beverages>

CSDE Webpage

Competitive Foods in Schools

The screenshot shows the CSDE website interface. At the top left is the 'ct.gov Connecticut's Official State Website' logo. A search bar is located at the top center with the placeholder text 'Search Connecticut Government...'. To the right of the search bar is a 'Language + Settings' button. Below the header, a breadcrumb trail reads 'CT.GOV HOME / DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION / COMPETITIVE FOODS IN SCHOOLS'. The main heading is 'Competitive Foods in Schools'. On the left side, there is a navigation menu with four items: 'Overview' (highlighted), 'Documents/Forms', 'Laws/Regulations', and 'Contact'. Below the menu, it says 'Provided by: Department of Education'. The main content area has an 'Overview' sub-heading followed by a list of links: 'School Nutrition Programs | Program Guidance | Forms | Resources | Nutrition Education | HFC | CNS | Smart Snacks | List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages'. The text below the links explains that competitive foods are all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises, separately from reimbursable meals and snacks served through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs). It notes that under Section 10-215b-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, competitive foods also include candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks that are given to students on school premises while CNPs are operating. A second paragraph states that competitive foods are governed by federal and state laws, which require that foods and beverages must meet nutrition standards and other restrictions. Some laws apply differently depending on whether the school is a public school, private school, or residential child care institution (RCCI). Some laws apply during the school day, while others apply at all times or while the CNPs are operating. When the federal and state laws supersede each other, schools must follow the stricter requirements. For an overview of the federal and state laws and when they apply, see the CSDE's handout, 'Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions'.

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Competitive-Foods>

HFC Contact Information

Susan Fiore
Nutrition Education Coordinator

susan.fiore@ct.gov

860-807-2075



CSDE Child Nutrition Programs

CSDE School Nutrition Programs Staff

County	Consultant
Fairfield County (includes Region 9) Litchfield County (includes Regions 1, 6, 7, 12, and 14)	Fionnuala Brown fionnuala.brown@ct.gov • 860-807-2129
Hartford County (includes Region 10) Middlesex County (includes Regions 4, 13, and 17)	Teri Dandeneau teri.dandeneau@ct.gov • 860-807-2079
New Haven County (includes Regions 5, 15 and 16)	Jackie Schipke jackie.schipke@ct.gov • 860-807-2123
New London County Tolland County (includes Regions 8 and 19) Windham County (includes Region 11)	Susan Alston susan.alston@ct.gov • 860-807-2081



Connecticut State Department of Education
 Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education
 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504
 Hartford, CT 06103-1841

CSDE Child Nutrition Programs

CSDE School Nutrition Programs Staff

Food Distribution Program (USDA Foods)	Allison Calhoun-White allison.calhoun-white@ct.gov • 860-807-2008 Monica Pacheco monica.pacheco@ct.gov • 860-807-2086
Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)	Caroline Cooke caroline.cooke@ct.gov • 860-807-2144
Child Nutrition Webpages Healthy Food Certification (HFC) Nutrition Education Special Diets	Susan Fiore susan.fiore@ct.gov • 860-807-2075
Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) School Wellness Policies	Donna Heins donna.heins@ct.gov • 860-807-2082
Special Milk Program (SMP) Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)	Terese Maineri terese.maineri@ct.gov • 860-807-2145
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Food service management companies	Andy Paul andrew.paul@ct.gov • 860-807-2048
Claims processing Equipment grants	Marita Preston marita.preston@ct.gov • 860-807-2055



Connecticut State Department of Education
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education
450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504
Hartford, CT 06103-1841

The Connecticut State Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Connecticut Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of age, ancestry, color, criminal record (in state employment and licensing), gender identity or expression, genetic information, intellectual disability, learning disability, marital status, mental disability (past or present), national origin, physical disability (including blindness), race, religious creed, retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, sex (pregnancy or sexual harassment), sexual orientation, veteran status or workplace hazards to reproductive systems, unless there is a bona fide occupational qualification excluding persons in any of the aforementioned protected classes.

Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to: Levy Gillespie, Equal Employment Opportunity Director/Americans with Disabilities Coordinator (ADA), Connecticut State Department of Education, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 607, Hartford, CT 06103, 860-807-2071, levy.gillespie@ct.gov