

MONDAY MORNING

March 17, 2025

**CALLING ALL FARMERS,
EDUCATORS, SCHOOL
FOOD SERVICE DIRECTORS!**

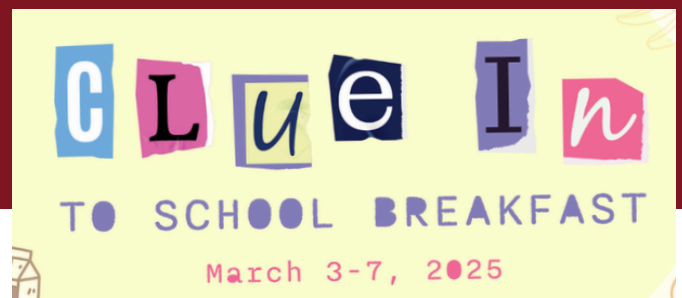
March 27, 2024
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EST

PFSN VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE!

The PA Farm to School Network (PFSN) is hosting a virtual open house for farmers/growers, educators, school food service directors, early care and education (ECE) providers, parents and community partners to learn more about starting and maintaining school gardens during the upcoming virtual open house on **Thursday, March 27th from 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM EST**. Learn more and register to attend the virtual open house [here!](#)

SHARE YOUR NSBW 25 PICS WITH US!

To be featured in SNAPA Happenings and Monday Mornings do not forget to share how your school celebrated National School Breakfast Week this month!



Share Pics Here

SNS Exam is Moving Online

When

This Fall, the School Nutrition Specialist (SNS) credentialing exam is moving online and will be available at a network of testing centers across the US. The last paper-based exams will be held in July 2025.

Why

The online exam format has many benefits for exam candidates including more flexible exam scheduling, potential for shorter travel times, and reduced time frame to obtain exam results. In addition to moving online, the exam blueprint is being revised to slightly reduce the number of questions while still retaining the exam reliability. Shortening the exam will reduce the testing time, which is preferable for online formats and a common practice within the credentialing field.

Stay tuned! More information and details about the new exam format including exam fees, policy updates and how to register for the exam will be shared in the coming months.

In the meantime, please email certsns@schoolnutrition.org with questions.



Thank You Partners!



AMERICAN DAIRY ASSOCIATION NORTH EAST



PROUDLY PART OF BRADYPLUS



Culinary Training Academy Registration Deadline is March 28th!

Grants and Culinary Training Opportunities for Pennsylvania SFAs

Culinary Training Academies (CTAs)

- Three 2-day CTAs in summer of 2025
- Training on improving nutritional quality of school meals and hands-on culinary skills
- Up to \$4,500 in funding for participating SFAs
- Additional information is available on the [Project PA website](#)
- Applications due by March 28, 2025



PA Harvest of the Month (PA HOM) Culinary Training Sessions

- Three 2-day hands-on culinary sessions focusing on PA HOM in summer of 2025
- Travel scholarships (\$200) available
- Up to \$1,000 available to participating schools to conduct PA HOM taste-tests
- Additional information is available on the [Project PA website](#)

SFA-Specific Tailored Culinary Training Opportunity

- Tailored training provided by chef for School Nutrition Program (SNP) staff
- Focus: selecting, handling, processing, storing, and preparing local food for SNP meals
- Additional information is available on the [Project PA website](#)
- Applications due by May 9, 2025

PA Harvest of the Month Mini-Grants

- Mini-grants up to \$2,500 available to implement PA HOM
- Additional information is available on the [PA HOM website](#)
- Applications due by May 2, 2025



PA Harvest of the Month Student Contests

- Up to \$1,500 available to implement PA HOM student contests
- Additional information is available on the [PA HOM website](#)
- Applications due by May 23, 2025

These opportunities are being offered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), Bureau of Food and Nutrition, through a partnership with Penn State University (Project PA). USDA funding sources include a Farm to School Formula grant, a FY 2024 Team Nutrition Training grant, and a FY 2024 Farm to School State Agency grant.

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