



Staying on Track: Questions & Answers

Answers to the questions asked in HNS' **November 2025 Staying on Track webinar**.

Please note, operators are responsible for remaining up-to-date on program guidance/regulations. The following answers reflect the information available at the time of the live webinar and may be subject to change.

NOVEMBER 2025

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: Parents have been calling with concerns of the Government Shutdown and SNAP benefits. It was mentioned that parents received notification that SNAP benefits will not be mailed to families. Will this affect their student's lunch benefits at school?

A: A shutdown-related delay in SNAP benefits will NOT impact children's eligibility for free school meals, but programs should plan for an increase in participation among children whose families do not receive their SNAP benefits. Families directly certified through SNAP for free meals at schools will not see any interruption in service this school year. Once an LEA has established a student's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals by Direct Certification or meal application, the eligibility remains in effect for the entire school year and will carryover for the first 30 operating days of the upcoming school year or until a new determination is made, whichever comes first.

Q: If the Verification deadline 11/15 falls on Saturday, does verification end on the following Monday 11/17 or Friday 11/14?

A: Phase 3 of verification ends on November 15, so verification activities should be completed on or before this date.

Q: Can the link to the National School Lunch Week Celebrations video be shared?

A: [Click here to access the National School Lunch Week Celebrations video.](#)

Q: What is the status on CNPWeb upgrade?

A: ADE IT and HNS are working hard on the CNPWeb Platform Upgrade Project. We truly appreciate your patience and continued support.

Q: If a food service director is 2 years into the position, would the New NSLP Director Workshop be beneficial?

A: This is an introductory workshop for new National School Lunch Program (NSLP) directors (those in the role for 1 year or less). This workshop is similar to a 101 introductory course for NSLP directors. The in-person workshop covers the basics about important deadlines, day to day responsibilities of what is expected from a new director, and what is expected from administration in a new administrative (director) role. This workshop is ideal for supervisors that have been promoted to directors.