

To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

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DATE:	May 22, 2025
SUBJECT:	Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Summer Meal Program Availability
CATEGORY:	Summer meal resources
NEXT STEPS:	1) Share with appropriate staff
	2) Collaborate with district and campus personnel to communicate to families

Overview

The Texas Education Agency (TEA), in collaboration with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), would like to support the announcement of the Summer Meal Programs.

The Summer Meal Program connects Texas children to healthy and nutritious meals while school is out of session. As a leader in your community, you play a critical role in helping increase awareness of the program and ensuring youth have access to healthy, nutritious meals.

The TDA has developed no-cost online resources and materials for schools, food sponsors, elected officials, and community members to use as promotional items to create program awareness. TDA has requested that school systems share the following message with parents and families via their school system's communication channels throughout the summer.

"Starting around June 2, after school cafeterias close for summer, Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) will partner with schools, churches, city governments, and other nonprofits to administer the Summer Meal Programs in Texas. These programs serve no-cost meals to children 18 and younger and enrolled students over 18 with disabilities in low-income areas. Families can use these two tools to find nearby meal sites — **VISIT** SummerFood.org, or **CALL** 2-1-1.

In addition to locating a site, it's important to frequently use these tools to confirm dates and times and gather more information about meal services. Some locations in rural areas will distribute multi-day meal bundles for families who have trouble attending a site daily. Utilizing these site-finding tools will provide families in remote and underserved areas with information about nearby sites that offer these accommodations."

Please visit <u>SummerFood.org</u> to learn more about the Summer Meal Program. To access downloadable materials for social media platforms, visit the TDA's <u>Resources for Summer Meal Programs</u> webpage.

Thank you for assisting with promoting the Summer Meal Program to Texas families.