



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

3101 Park
Center Drive

Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

February 24, 2010

Dear Software Industry Executive:

The 14th release of the Child Nutrition Database (CN14) is currently available for software companies that have either received approval from the Department of Agriculture (USDA) for their nutrient analysis software or are in the process of becoming USDA-approved. CN14 is available for download from the Healthy Meals Resource System website at: <http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/cndatabase.html>. Please be aware of the following reminders and changes related to the Child Nutrition Database as you prepare the update:

1. The USDA Foods (commodity foods) used in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program were added to CN14. These 184 items replaced the commodity items in CN13. The existing commodity items (source code 4) were either marked as discontinued or changed to source code 1 (if still active in the USDA Nutrient Database for Standard Reference (SR)). To accommodate the Commodity Code, the "Recipe Code" field in the FDES table has been renamed to "Commodity or Recipe Code".
2. Effective 3/20/2011, approved software must display the recipe code and commodity code when applicable. This includes displaying the code in the search results.
3. In Release 13, the FINCL, FSUBCOD, and FSUBDES files were marked as discontinued. These files have been removed from CN14 along with any related fields in the other database files.
4. Please visit: <http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/software-support.html> for the updated specifications and the updated checklist document.

Software companies with programs approved by USDA are required to submit their CN14 update to the software evaluation coordinator by no later than May 15, 2010.

The CN Database is an integral part of the nutrient analysis software approved by USDA for use in Nutrient Standard Menu Planning and School Meals Initiative reviews. The new data is vital to School Meals Program administrators, especially the updated and new nutrient values. **Please notify Tim Vázquez at (703) 305-2609, immediately if your software users will not be provided with an updated version which includes CN14, by June 30, 2010 - the close of the 2009 – 2010 school year.**

Software Industry Executive
Page 2

Once updated, please forward a copy of your software to Natalie Partridge, 66 Penrose Drive, West Springfield, MA, 01089, by no later than May 15, 2010. Access to a full version of your software must be provided to Natalie by the May 15th deadline. Please contact Natalie by email at: Natalie.Partridge@ars.usda.gov to inform her of your intent to submit your updated software.

If you encounter issues as you incorporate CN14, please contact Tim Vázquez as soon as possible and he will work with the contractor on a resolution.

Sincerely,

Original Signed

Cynthia Long
Director
Child Nutrition Division