



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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State Superintendent of Education

Alabama
State Board
of Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 27, 2025

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Governor Kay Ivey
President

**ALABAMA PARTNERS WITH THE CHEF ANN FOUNDATION
FOR RECIPE DEVELOPMENT AND CULINARY TRAINING**

Jackie Zeigler
District I

MONTGOMERY, Ala – The Alabama State Department of Education Child Nutrition Program (CNP) has partnered with the Chef Ann Foundation to provide culinary training to school nutrition staff and create simple recipes from scratch featuring Alabama Harvest of the Month items, supported by the USDA’s 2022 Farm to School Formula Grant.

Tracie West
District II

The recipes that are developed will be tested by select Alabama cafeterias and will incorporate locally grown items, USDA foods, and/or statewide bid items.

Stephanie Bell
District III

The ALSDE CNP aims to engage schools that currently have limited scratch cooking operations and minimal use of Alabama-grown products but are eager to learn yet lack the necessary training and resources to do so.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV

Select Alabama schools will prepare recipes for their students and implement taste tests to ensure approval. These schools will have access to unique training opportunities, such as hands-on culinary training, virtual courses, and in-person technical assistance and workshops.

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
District V
Vice President

The Chef Ann Foundation will provide assistance with taste testing implementation and surveying students, which will promote future scratch cooking and taste testing efforts. Districts will additionally receive grant funds to support these tasks.

Marie Manning
District VI
President Pro Tem

Once finalized, the recipes will be shared with all Alabama school districts to encourage healthy, locally sourced meals across the state.

Belinda McRae
District VII

“We are excited to work with the Chef Ann Foundation to bring fresh, nutritious options to Alabama’s students while supporting local farmers,” said Angelice Lowe, Director of ALSDE CNP. “This partnership will empower districts to incorporate more locally grown foods into their school meal programs and strengthen their culinary skills.”

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
District VIII

The new recipes will be compiled into a recipe book for schools statewide, helping Alabama school districts create meals that are both healthy and delicious.

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

More information for district participation will be released in early 2025.

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