



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

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Alexandria, VA  
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**Date:** April 1, 2009

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**SUBJECT:** Thirteenth Release of the Child Nutrition (CN) Database

**TO:** Regional Directors  
Special Nutrition Programs  
All Regions

The thirteenth release of the Child Nutrition Database (CN13) was made available at the Healthy Meals Resource System website on March 9, 2009. The new release is available to computer software companies who develop the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) approved Nutrient Standard Menu Planning Software Programs for the purpose of updating their existing software. The CN13 release contains 168 new USDA National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference (SR) items, 3,169 updated nutrients with a total of 11,252 active food items, including 8,281 processed foods.

The thirteenth release can be downloaded from the Healthy Meals Resource System website at: <http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/cndatabase.html>. This web location also contains the System Components and File Formats (SCFF) document that defines the structural design of CN13. All SR 21 updates have been applied to the SR products included in this release. All 79 products marked as discontinued in CN12 have been removed from CN13.

The CN Database is an integral part of the USDA-approved Nutrient Standard Menu Planning and School Meals Initiative (SMI) Nutrient Analysis Software. We expect the USDA-approved software companies to incorporate CN13 into their software by June 15, 2009. However, the developers are expected to distribute the new version of the software to their current users before the end of the current school year. Anyone who does not receive an update should contact his or her software company.

Please contact Tim Vázquez at (703) 305-2609, if you have any questions or if you determine that a software company is not updating their software to include CN13.

**Original Signed**

CYNTHIA LONG  
Director  
Child Nutrition Division