Attachment B.10 – Paper School Food Authority Survey

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is OMB-NEW. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 60 minutes or 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The purpose of this SFA School Nutrition Management Information System (MIS) Survey is to assess your School Food Authority's (SFA) school nutrition electronic management information system (MIS). In addition to a general description of the features of your MIS, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is interested in what data are available in your MIS, the level of aggregation of such data, and how you use such data to manage your school nutrition program operations. The information that you provide will be used only for the purposes of this study.

<u>Definitions:</u>

For this survey, the term <u>school nutrition</u> includes <u>only</u> the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP).

<u>School nutrition MIS</u> means computer software and electronic systems used to record, manage and track major program functions such as meal claiming, point of service, verification, household applications and certification, direct verification and certification, menu planning, production records, and others. <u>We do not consider information captured, stored, and analyzed in spreadsheet applications such as Microsoft Excel to be an electronic MIS</u>. Subsequent mentions of "MIS" refer to your school nutrition MIS.

Structure of the Survey:

This survey is organized into three main sections, each covering a major topic. These sections are:

- 1. <u>An overview description</u> of your current electronic school nutrition MIS
- 2. <u>Data elements and reporting capabilities</u> available in your electronic school nutrition MIS
- 3. <u>Technical features</u> of your electronic school nutrition MIS

The questions in each of these three sections are organized to allow different individuals to provide answers, if needed. Ideally, the Director of Food Services or a designated representative who is familiar with the school nutrition MIS would answer the questions in Sections 1 and 2. Section 3 is best answered by an individual with technical understanding of the school nutrition MIS. These are just suggestions; any SFA or school district staff member who is knowledgeable about the MIS may respond.

Section 1: Description of SFA School Nutrition MIS

In this section, we ask questions about the background of your current school nutrition MIS and the costs associated with acquiring and maintaining it.

The questions are grouped into three areas:

- 1. Overview the general description of the type of software/systems you have, including how you acquired them, the functional modules available, and how long it took to conceive, develop and implement your school nutrition MIS.
- 2. Costs the expenditures associated with the acquisition, ongoing operations of your school nutrition MIS, and any planned upgrades.
- 3. Challenges and Future Plans the extent to which your current MIS meets your needs and plans to upgrade or replace it.

Overview

We will start by asking you some general questions about your SFA and the electronic tools you use to manage your operations.

1. In general, how do you manage your SFA's school nutrition program data? Remember that use of spreadsheet applications such as Microsoft Excel is not considered an electronic MIS for our purposes. **Check all that apply.**

Custom software developed in-house	→Q3
Custom software developed by a vendor (not including commercial off-the-shelf [COTS]	→Q3
software that is later customized)	
Software purchased or licensed from a vendor (including commercial off-the-shelf [COTS]	→Q3
software that is later customized)	
We use a statewide MIS provided by our state's child nutrition agency	→Q3
We use basic spreadsheets such as Microsoft Excel	→Q2
We collect and store the data manually on paper	→Q2

2. Why do you <u>not</u> use an electronic MIS to manage at least part of your school nutrition program data? **Check all that apply**.

The available software is too expensive	→END
We cannot find a product that will work for us	→END
We do not have the staff to develop one	→END
We do not have staff trained to use the software	→END
We tried in the past, but it didn't work for us	→END
Other reason (please specify)	→END

3. How many individuals employed in your SFA school nutrition operations are <u>users</u> of your school nutrition MIS? (Please include all individuals who enter, view, download, or upload data and/or reports.)

Number of Users_____

4. Which of the following **modules** do you have in your current school nutrition MIS? Please indicate the vendor of the modules you have and approximately how long you have had them.

Module	Have	Vendor	No. of Years
Applications Scanner	□Yes □No	{Select from dropdown list}	{Select from dropdown list}
Online Application	□Yes □No	Agilysys, Inc. Derrington Software, Inc.	□ Less than 1 year □ 1 year to less than 4 years □ 4 years to less than 7 years
Eligibility Determination	□Yes □No	Barrington Software, Inc. Chartwells School Dining	□ 7 years to less than 11 years □ 11 years to less than 15 years
Direct Certification (Matching)	□Yes □No	ServicesCybersoft Technologies, Inc.	□ 15 years or more
Meal Claiming	□Yes □No	Education Management Systems, Inc.	
Point of Sale (POS) System	□Yes □No	Focal Tech, Inc.Food Service Solutions, Inc.	
Financial Management (School Nutrition Revenues and Expenditures)	□Yes □No	 Harris School Solutions Heartland School Solutions Horizon Software 	
Inventory Management	□Yes □No	Meal Magic CorporationMichoice Technology Systems,	
Facilities and Physical Asset Management	□Yes □No	 Inc. PCS Revenue Control Systems, Inc. 	
USDA Foods Tracking	□Yes □No	• Wordware, Inc.	
Online Payments from Households	□Yes □No	Other (please specify)	
Order Processing	□Yes □No		
Meal Production	□Yes □No		
Menu/Nutrient Analysis	□Yes □No		
Menu Planning	□Yes □No		
Tracking Staff Training (e.g. food safety/HACCP)	□Yes □No		
Other (please specify)	□Yes □No		
Other (please specify)	□Yes □No	1	

Module	Have	Vendor	No. of Years

5. Please tell us if your needs for the following modules are fully met, partially met, or not met at all by your current school nutrition MIS.

Module	Fully met	Partially met	Not met at all
Applications Scanner			
Online Application			
Eligibility Determination			
Direct Certification (Matching)			
Meal Claiming			
Point of Sale (POS) System			
Financial Management (School Nutrition Revenues and Expenditures)			
Inventory Management			
Facilities and Physical Asset Management			
USDA Foods Tracking			
Online Payments from Households			
Order Processing			
Meal Production			
Menu/Nutrient Analysis			
Menu Planning			
Tracking Staff Training (e.g. food safety/HACCP)			
Other (please specify)			

6. What entity **primarily manages** your school nutrition MIS? By primarily manage we mean responsible for arranging staff access to the system and overseeing contracts with vendor(s) (if applicable). **Check only one**.

School Nutrition department	→Q7
School District/LEA IT department	→Q7
State School Nutrition agency	→Q7
Vendor/Contractor	→Q7
Other (please specify)	→Q7

Costs

Next, we will ask you questions about the costs of your current school nutrition MIS, including cost to develop, implement, upgrade, and operate your school nutrition MIS and the sources of funds used to finance it. Please estimate costs related to NSLP/SBP operations only.

Initial Development and Upgrade Costs for Current Modules

The first questions focus on the costs your state incurred in **procuring or developing** your current school nutrition MIS and for any subsequent **upgrades**. For **initial development**, please include costs of direct development, software development tools, hardware and any other resources expended in initially developing or purchasing each module. For **upgrades**, please include costs for changes, other than routine updates, made to the software by the software vendor or your in-house IT staff to either enhance existing functions or add new functions. These are sometimes called "add-on" enhancements and should <u>only</u> include changes procured outside of any maintenance contract(s).

7. Please indicate the cost to <u>initially develop and implement</u> each of the modules in your current school nutrition MIS and for any <u>subsequent upgrades</u>. Please choose **one response** in each column for each module.

Module	Initial Development and Implementation Costs	Upgrade Costs (If non-routine upgrade[s] occurred after initial implementation)
Applications Scanner	\Box No direct cost to state	□ No upgrades purchased
Online Application	school nutrition agency	\Box No direct cost to SFA (upgrades are
Eligibility Determination	(upgrades are made by state	made by SFA IT staff)
Direct Certification (Matching)	IT staff)	□ Less than \$50,000
Meal Claiming	□ Less than \$50,000	□ \$50,000 - \$99,000
Point of Sale (POS) System	□ \$50,000 - \$99,000	□ \$100,000 - \$299,999
Financial Management (School Nutrition Revenues and Expenditures) Inventory Management Facilities and Physical Asset Management	 □ \$100,000 - \$299,999 □ \$300,000 - \$499,999 □ \$500,000 - \$699,999 □ \$700,000 - \$999,999 □ \$1,000,000 -\$4,999,999 □ \$5,000,000 or more 	□ \$300,000 - \$499,999 □ \$500,000 - \$699,999 □ \$700,000 - \$999,999 □ \$1,000,000 -\$4,999,999 □ \$5,000,000 or more □ Don't know
USDA Foods Tracking	🛛 Don't know	
Online Payments from Households		
Order Processing		
Meal Production		
Menu/Nutrient Analysis		
Menu Planning		

Module	Initial Development and Implementation Costs	Upgrade Costs (If non-routine upgrade[s] occurred after initial implementation)
Tracking Staff Training (e.g. food safety/HACCP)		
Other (please specify)		

8. How did you fund the **initial development or purchase** of your current school nutrition MIS? **Check all that apply.**

Local Education Agency (LEA)/General education funds	→Q9
Funds from the nonprofit school food service account	→Q9
State school nutrition funds	→Q9
Federal school nutrition grants	→Q9
Other federal funds (please specify)	→Q9
Obtained a loan	→Q9
Other grant monies (please specify)	→Q9
Other source (please specify)	→Q9
I don't know	→Q9

Software Upgrade Costs

Next, we are interested in how often you **upgrade** your school nutrition MIS. "Upgrade" means **changes other than routine updates** made to the software by the software vendor or your in-house IT staff to either enhance existing functions or add new functions.

9. Generally, how often do you <u>upgrade</u> your school nutrition MIS modules (both in-house or software purchased from a vendor)? **Check all that apply.**

On an as needed basis	→ Q10
Quarterly	→ Q10
Semi-annually	→ Q10
Annually	→ Q10
Other (please specify)	→ Q10
Don't know	→ Q10
Never upgraded	→ Q10

10. For the components of your current school nutrition MIS that are provided by a vendor, do you own or lease (pay regular license fees for) them? **Check all that apply.**

We own the software (i.e., own copyright or equivalent)	→Q1
	1
We have a renewable license to use the software	→Q1
	1

We have no MIS components provided by a vendor	→Q1 1
State owns rights to software but grants our SFA usage rights	→Q1 1
We use open source software (available for free to anyone)	→Q1 1
Other (please specify)	→Q1 1

Operating Costs

Next, we will ask you about the costs of operating and maintaining your MIS. "Operating" refers to the regular use of your MIS to manage your school nutrition activities. "Maintaining" refers to scheduled or ad-hoc activities you perform on your school nutrition MIS to ensure optimal performance. Please estimate costs related to NSLP/SBP operations only.

11. You indicated that you purchased all or some of your current school nutrition MIS from a vendor. <u>Do</u> you have a maintenance contract with your vendor(s)? Check only one.

Yes, our SFA has maintenance contract(s) with all of our vendor(s)	→Q13
Yes, our SFA has maintenance contract(s) with <u>some</u> of our vendor(s)	→Q12
No, we have no maintenance contracts with any of our vendors	→Q12

12. You indicated that you <u>do NOT have</u> a maintenance contract with at least one of your current school nutrition MIS vendor(s). How do you update that vendor's school nutrition MIS? **Check all that apply.**

We make changes using in-house IT staff	→ Q13
We make changes using contracted software developers	→ Q13
We do not make any changes to it	→ Q13
Other (please specify)	→ Q13

13. What support functions does your maintenance contract(s) cover? Check all that apply.

Regular updates to conform with FNS policies	→ Q14
Other updates to system functionality or features	→ Q14
Patches and fixes to problems	→ Q14
Training (remote, on- or off-site)	→ Q14
Backup and recovery	→ Q14
In-person software support	→ Q14
In-person hardware support	→ Q14
Remote software support	→ Q14
Technical support via telephone or online	→ Q14

Other (please specify)	→Q14
Don't know	→Q14

14. Turning now to annual school nutrition MIS operational costs, for each of the following items, indicate <u>the cost to operate</u> your current school nutrition MIS in the 2015-2016 school year. **Please** enter \$0 if there was no cost for a particular item.

Operational cost item	Annual cost (\$)
Maintenance contract fees	
Software updates made to comply with FNS policy changes (e.g., new reporting forms, new meal patterns)	
Hardware replacement (If you update hardware less frequently than once per year, please estimate the per year cost of those expenses)	
License fees to use school nutrition software	{If Q10 answer choice 2 selected, this should not equal \$0}
Other (please specify)	
Other (please specify)	

Future Plans

Next, we will ask you about plans and expectations you may have for replacing your school nutrition MIS **in the next 12 months**. When answering questions on plans over the next 12 months, please **exclude** updates made to your school nutrition MIS to comply with policy updates by FNS. Policy updates refer to the regulations or policy memoranda that FNS occasionally issues to change requirements or provide guidance on the administration of the school nutrition programs.

15. Are you expecting to make non-routine <u>upgrades or expansions</u> to your current school nutrition MIS in the next 12 months? **Check all that apply.**

Purchase new modules	→ Q16
Perform software upgrades	→ Q16
Perform hardware upgrades	→Q16
Add new sites to the system	→ Q16
Other upgrade (please specify)	→ Q16
No upgrades or expansions planned for next 12 months	→Q16
Don't know	→Q16

16. When do you expect to replace all or part of your current school nutrition MIS? Check only one.

	In less than 1 year	→Q17
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1 year to less than 3 years	→Q17
3 years to less than 6 years	→Q17
6 years or more	→Q17
No current replacement plans	→ Q19
Don't know	→Q19

17. You indicated that you expect to replace all or part of your current school nutrition MIS in the future. How do you anticipate acquiring a new MIS or a module? Check all that apply.

Develop customized MIS using in-house resources	→ Q18
Develop customized MIS using a vendor	→Q18
Purchase a new MIS product from a vendor	→ Q18
We have not yet made a decision	→Q18
Other (please specify)	→ Q18
Don't know	→Q18

18. How much do you anticipate the cost, in total, will be to replace all or part of your current school nutrition MIS? Include all costs such as personnel, software licenses, and hardware. **Check only one.**

Less than \$50,000	→ Q19
\$50,000 - \$99,000	→Q19
\$100,000 - \$249,000	→Q19
\$250,000 – \$499,999	→Q19
\$500,000 - \$999,999	→Q19
\$1,000,000 - \$2,999,999	→Q19
\$3,000,000 or more	→Q19
Don't know	→Q19

Section 2: Data Elements and Reporting

Section 2 of the survey focuses on the types of data or data "elements" you collect in your current school nutrition MIS. Some of these are data you report to the State agency or FNS, but others may not be reported outside of your SFA.

We have grouped the data into five categories:

- 1. Reimbursement claims
- 2. Free and Reduced Price Eligibility Determinations and Verification
- 3. Meal Service and Nutrition Information
- 4. Financial Management
- 5. Other Data Elements

In addition to asking whether the data are in your school nutrition MIS, we also want to know how frequently you collect them, the level of detail (either SFA or school/site), and whether you generate reports with the data.

Claims for Reimbursement

First, we will ask you about the capabilities of your current school nutrition MIS in helping you manage reimbursement claims.

19. Does your school nutrition MIS <u>track or assign eligibility to meals</u> that qualify for additional FNS reimbursements for SFAs serving a high percentage of low-income students? Please choose Frequency, Finest level of detail and Internal SFA reports for all data that are available in your MIS.

Reimbursement type	Data are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available	Internal SFA reports are generated from these data
Additional 2-cent reimbursement for lunches served in low-income schools (60% or more qualify for free or reduced price meals from the second preceding school year)	□ Yes □ No □ Not Applicable	{Choose one from dropdown box} • Daily • Weekly • Monthly	{Choose one from dropdown box}	□Yes □No
Reimbursements for breakfasts served in schools eligible for Severe Need breakfasts	□ Yes □ No □ Not Applicable	 Quarterly Annually	Site or SchoolSFA	□Yes □No

Free and Reduced Price Eligibility Determinations and Verification

Next, we will ask you some questions about the capabilities of your current school nutrition MIS in helping you manage free and reduced price eligibility determinations and verification.

20. Do you use your current school nutrition MIS to assist with verification of household applications?

Yes	→Q21
No	→Q22
Don't know	→Q22
Not applicable, all schools using Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision 2 or 3	→Q22

21. You indicated that you use your current school nutrition MIS to assist with verification of household applications. <u>Which of the following data elements</u> does your MIS track for verification? **Check all that apply**.

	Error Prone applications	→Q22
	Applications selected for verification sample	→Q22
	Applications and students confirmed through Direct Verification	→Q22
	Results for Free Categorically Eligible verifications, by applications and students (no	→Q22
	change, responded changed to reduced price or paid, no response paid)	
	Results for Free Income verifications, by applications and students (no change, responded	→Q22
_	changed to reduced price or paid, no response paid)	
	Results for Reduced Price Income verifications, by applications and students (no change,	→Q22
_	responded changed to free or paid, no response paid)	
	Total number of questionable applications verified for cause as of November 15	→Q22

Meal Service and Nutrition Information

The next set of questions focuses on the data in your MIS related to meal service and nutrition. We are interested in how you collect and store information on reimbursable meals.

22. At what level of detail do you record reimbursable meal information? Check all that apply.

	We record information for each meal for each student	→Q23
	We record total number of reimbursable meals served to all students	→Q23
	Other (please specify)	→Q23
23	v do you record reimbursable breakfast and lunch meals served at the point of t apply .	sale? Check all
	Point of Sale (POS) terminal that links to the MIS	→ Q24
	Manually such as paper, tally sheet or clicker	→Q29
	Other (please specify)	→Q29

24. You indicated that you use your POS system to record reimbursable meals served. How does it record the meals served? **Check all that apply**.

Finger imaging	→Q25
Student enters/keys in ID number	→Q25
Cashier student identification and selection on terminal screen	→Q25
Student ID card swipe	→Q25
Student ID card scan	→Q25
Other (please specify)	→Q25

25. Does your POS system have the capability to record <u>each</u> lunch meal component served to a child as a part of his/her reimbursable meal?

Yes	→ Q26
No	→Q28
Don't know	→ Q28

26. Do cashiers in your SFA record each lunch meal component served to a child on the POS interface?

Yes	→Q27
No	→Q28

27. You indicated that cashiers record each lunch meal component served in the POS. <u>Does the POS</u> <u>system determine whether the meal is reimbursable</u>?

Yes, if the cashier enters the correct number and type of components in the transaction, the	→Q28
meal is counted as reimbursable	
No, the cashier enters the components, but then also selects a separate key or button	→Q28
indicating that the meal is reimbursable. The cashier makes the final decision.	

28. What student certification information does your MIS import into your POS system?

Student certification data is not imported; it is entered manually	→Q29
Free certification status is imported	→Q29
Free certification status and the source of direct certification is imported (e.g., SNAP, TANF,	→Q29
Medicaid, Foster)	
I don't know	→Q29

29. Are any of the following data available in your school nutrition MIS? **Check all that apply**.

Data	Are Data available in MIS?
USDA Standardized Recipes used	□ Yes
	□ No
	🗆 I don't know

Data	Are Data available in MIS?
Child Nutrition Labeled items used	□ Yes
	🗆 No
	I don't know
Local Recipes	□ Yes
	🗆 No
	I don't know
Smart Snacks Nutrition Profiles	□ Yes
	🗆 No
	🗆 I don't know

Financial Management

Next, we will ask you about the types of financial data your school nutrition MIS collects and generates. Financial data include revenues received and expenditures incurred as part of your regular school nutrition operations.

30. For each of the following **types of revenue data**, **please indicate whether the data element** is available in your school nutrition MIS, and if so, the frequency with which it is collected, the level of detail, and whether reports are generated from the data.

Revenue line item	Data are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available	Internal SFA reports available from these data
USDA Meal Reimbursements	□ Yes	{Choose one	{Choose one	□ Yes
	□ No	from dropdown	from dropdown	□ No
Student Meal Payments	□ Yes	box}	box}	□ Yes
	□ No	• Daily		□ No
Adult Meal Revenues	□ Yes	 Weekly 	 Individual 	□ Yes
	□ No	Monthly	Site/School	□ No
State/Local Meal Reimbursements	□ Yes	 Quarterly Annually	• SFA	□ Yes
	□ No			□ No
USDA Foods Monetary Value	□ Yes			□ Yes
	□ No			□ No
Non-Program Food Sales, including A	□ Yes			
La Carte Sales, second meals and	□ No			□ Yes □ No
Vending				
Contracted/Cotoring Color	□ Yes			□ Yes
Contracted/Catering Sales	□ No			□ No
Other State Funding	□ Yes			□ Yes
	□ No			□ No

Revenue line item	Data are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available	Internal SFA reports available from these data
Funds Transferred in	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No
Grants	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No
Interest	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No
Other(please specify)	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No

31. For each of the following <u>types of expenditure data, please indicate whether the data element is</u> available in your school nutrition MIS and, if so, the frequency with which it is collected, the level of detail, and whether reports are generated from the data.

Expenditure line items	Data are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available	Internal SFA reports available from these data	
Purchased Food	□ Yes □ No	{Choose one from dropdown	{Choose one from dropdown box}	□ Yes □ No	
Food Production and Operating Supplies	□ Yes box} □ No • Daily			 Individual 	□ Yes □ No
USDA Foods Delivery/Handling/Storage Charges	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No	
Labor Costs (Salaries and Benefits)	□ Yes □ No	Annually		□ Yes □ No	
Equipment Purchases (>\$5000)	□ Yes □ No	-		□ Yes □ No	
Purchased Services	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No	
Indirect Cost Charges	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No	
Funds Transferred Out	□ Yes			□ Yes	

Expenditure line items	Data are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available	Internal SFA reports available from these data
	□ No			□ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No

32. Does your School Food Authority sell <u>non-program foods</u>? "Non-program foods" means foods and beverages purchased with nonprofit school food service account funds and sold to students but not as a reimbursable meal or snack (including a la carte, second meals and vending).

Yes	→Q33
No	→Q34

33. You indicated that your SFA sells non-program foods. Does your current school nutrition MIS collect <u>non-program food</u> costs, revenues, and sales data? Please choose Frequency, Finest level of detail and Internal SFA reports for all data available in your MIS.

Non-program foods data	Data are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available	Internal SFA reports available from these data
Food Costs	🗆 Yes			🗆 Yes
	🗆 No	{Choose one		□ No
Labor Costs	🗆 Yes	from dropdown	{Choose one	🗆 Yes
	🗆 No	box}	from dropdown	□ No
Revenues	□ Yes	507]	box}	□ Yes
	□ No		507	🗆 No
Individual Item Sales	□ Yes	 Daily 		□ Yes
	🗆 No	Weekly	 Site/School 	□ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes	Monthly	• SFA	□ Yes
	🗆 No	Quarterly		□ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes	Annually		□ Yes
	🗆 No			□ No

34. Does your current school nutrition MIS generate **paid lunch equity** calculations? These are the annual calculations required to determine whether you need to raise your paid lunch prices or contribute an equivalent amount of funds to the nonprofit school food service account.

Yes	→ Q35
No	→ Q35
Don't know	→ Q35

35. What types of **performance and operating efficiency measures** does your current school nutrition MIS generate? Please choose Frequency of collection and Finest level of detail for all data available in your MIS.

Performance and operating efficiency measures	Data to calculate these measures are available in MIS	Calculated measures are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available
Meals per labor hour	□ Yes	□ Yes	{Choose one	{Choose one from
	□ No	□ No	from dropdown	dropdown box}
Meal equivalents (e.g., ratio of	□ Yes	□ Yes	box}	
breakfasts to lunch)	🗆 No	🗆 No		 Site/School
Percentage of certified students served by meal type (Free/Reduced Price/Paid)	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No	DailyWeeklyMonthly	• SFA
Percentage of meals reimbursed by	□ Yes	□ Yes	Quarterly	
category (Free/Reduced Price/Paid)	□ No	□ No	 Annually 	
Targeted maximum cost per meal	□ Yes	□ Yes		
("plate costs")				
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No		
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No	□ Yes □ No		

Other Data Elements

The next set of questions on data elements do not fall into any of the previous categories. They focus on data available on SFA operational and other administrative activities.

36. What types of **professional standards and training** data does your current school nutrition MIS collect? Please choose Frequency, Finest level of detail and Internal SFA reports for all data available in your MIS.

Professional standards and training data	Data are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available	Internal SFA reports available from these data
Training hours offered	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No
Training hours logged (total)	□ Yes □ No	{Choose one from	{Choose one from dropdown box} • Individual • Site/School • SFA	□ Yes □ No
Individual SFA employee training hours tracking	□ Yes □ No	dropdown box}		□ Yes □ No
Employees meeting professional standards	□ Yes □ No	MonthlyQuarterly		□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No	 Annually 		□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No

37. What types of <u>school food safety inspection</u> data does your current school nutrition MIS collect? Please choose Frequency, Finest level of detail and Internal SFA reports for all data available in your MIS.

School food safety inspection data	Data are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available	Internal SFA reports available from these data
Number of inspections	□ Yes □ No	{Choose one		□ Yes □ No
Results of food safety inspections (e.g., scores or pass/fail)	□ Yes □ No	from dropdown box}	{Choose one from dropdown box} • Site/School • SFA	□ Yes □ No
Corrective actions taken after inspection results	□ Yes □ No	DailyMonthly		□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No	 Quarterly Annually		□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No

38. Does your SFA have a contract with a **food service management company (FSMC)**?

Yes	→Q39
No	→Q40

39. What types of <u>FSMC contracts</u> data does your current school nutrition MIS collect? Please choose Frequency, Finest level of detail and Internal SFA reports for all data available in your MIS.

FSMC contracts data	Data are available in MIS	Frequency of collection (Please select most frequent level for entering data)	Finest level of detail available	Internal SFA reports available from these data
Data to support monitoring of the contract (e.g. tracking receipt of rebates, discounts and credits)	□ Yes □ No	{Choose one from		□ Yes □ No
Data to support SFA recordkeeping	□ Yes □ No	dropdown box}	{Choose one from dropdown	□ Yes □ No
Data and logs to support bids/procurement of FSMC services	□ Yes □ No		,	□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No	DailyMonthlyQuarterly	Site/SchoolSFA	□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No	Annually	-	□ Yes □ No
Other (please specify)	□ Yes □ No			□ Yes □ No

Reporting Capabilities and Data Quality

The next questions focus on the reporting capabilities of your current school nutrition MIS and the quality of the data in the MIS. We also ask about the processes you have within your school nutrition MIS to ensure that data is accurate (e.g., edit checks) and has not been tampered with or manipulated (data integrity).

40. Do you use your current school nutrition MIS to <u>automatically</u> generate any of the following mandatory reports to the state? <u>"Automatically</u>" refers to the ability to generate the report from your MIS without compiling information manually from multiple sources. For each report type, please indicate which of the four <u>quality categories</u> best describes your rating of the report generated in your school nutrition MIS.

Report name	MIS generates this report	Quality
Form FNS-10, Report on School	•	• [Excellent]Meets or exceeds all our needs
Program Operations (monthly	□ Yes	 [Good] Meets most of our needs
claim for reimbursement)		• [Adequate] Meets some of our needs
		• [Poor] Meets few, if any, of our needs
		• [Excellent]Meets or exceeds all our needs
Form FNS-742, School Food	□ Yes	 [Good] Meets most of our needs
Authority Verification Collection Report		• [Adequate] Meets some of our needs
Report		• [Poor] Meets few, if any, of our needs
		• [Excellent]Meets or exceeds all our needs
Form FNS-874 (formerly 742A),	□ Yes	 [Good] Meets most of our needs
LEA Second Review of Applications Report	□ No □ Not applicable	 [Adequate] Meets some of our needs
		• [Poor] Meets few, if any, of our needs
Form FNS-822, Fresh Fruit and		• [Excellent]Meets or exceeds all our needs
Vegetable Program Participation	□ Yes	 [Good] Meets most of our needs
Report (FFVP schools,	□ No □ Not applicable	 [Adequate] Meets some of our needs
enrollment, and funding)		• [Poor] Meets few, if any, of our needs
Form FNS-828, SFA Paid Lunch		• [Excellent]Meets or exceeds all our needs
Report (most frequently charged	□ Yes	 [Good] Meets most of our needs
price at elementary, middle and	□ No □ Not applicable	 [Adequate] Meets some of our needs
high school levels)		• [Poor] Meets few, if any, of our needs
		• [Excellent]Meets or exceeds all our needs
Other (places excelf.)	□ Yes	 [Good] Meets most of our needs
Other (please specify)		• [Adequate] Meets some of our needs
		• [Poor] Meets few, if any, of our needs
		• [Excellent]Meets or exceeds all our needs
Other (place except)	□ Yes	 [Good] Meets most of our needs
Other (please specify)		 [Adequate] Meets some of our needs
		• [Poor] Meets few, if any, of our needs
		• [Excellent]Meets or exceeds all our needs
	□ Yes	 [Good] Meets most of our needs
Other (please specify)		• [Adequate] Meets some of our needs
		• [Poor] Meets few, if any, of our needs
Other (please specify)	□ Yes	• [Excellent]Meets or exceeds all our needs
	□ No	 [Good] Meets most of our needs
		• [Adequate] Meets some of our needs

Report name	MIS generates this report	Quality
		 [Poor] Meets few, if any, of our needs

41. Which of the following types of <u>analysis and tracking of data</u> are you able to perform using your current school nutrition MIS? **Check all that apply**.

Standard, summary reports that came with the software	→Q42
Standard, detailed reports that came with the software	→Q42
Customized reports by choosing data categories	→Q42
Customized reports by writing code such as structured query language (SQL), Crystal	→Q42
Reports, etc.	
Management dashboards or interfaces that provide visual analysis of data or key indicators	→Q42
Scorecards that show progress of specified measures against their targets	→Q42
Other reports (please specify)	→Q42
Our school nutrition MIS does not perform analysis and tracking of data	→Q42

42. What <u>data quality and integrity checks</u> are built into your current school nutrition MIS? Check all that apply.

Incomplete applications	→ Q44
Over-claims (for example, number of meals claimed greater than student enrollment)	→ Q44
Duplicate students (for example, same student claimed more than once for same meal service)	→ Q44
Required claim edit checks	→ Q44
Reasonableness of data (for example, system only accepts values within an anticipated range)	→Q44
Audit logs which record all user activities	→Q44
Reports with missing data are rejected	→Q44
Checks to ensure data are not manipulated outside of the software	→ Q44
Other (please specify)	→Q44
Other (please specify)	→ Q44
Other (please specify)	→Q44
Don't know	→ Q43
Our school nutrition MIS does not provide data quality and integrity checks	→Q43

43. You indicated that your current school nutrition MIS <u>does not provide</u> data quality and integrity checks or that you are unsure if it does. <u>How do you ensure that your data is accurate</u>? Check all that apply.

Manually check all reports	→ Q44
Manually check randomly selected reports	→ Q44
We don't check data accuracy	→ Q44
Other (please specify)	→ Q44

Don't know

→Q44

44. In using your school nutrition MIS, do you face any of the following challenges concerning <u>data</u> <u>collection</u>? Check all that apply.

The level of detail does not meet our needs	→ Q45
The data is not adequately secured or protected from external manipulation	→Q45
The level of security makes it difficult to use the system	→ Q45
Not all users are adequately trained to use the system	→ Q45
Data is collected to fulfill an old FNS/State report form and there is too much lag time to	→ Q45
reprogram the system to meet the requirements of the new report form	
Other (please specify)	→ Q45
I do not face any challenges with data collection	→Q45

45. In using your school nutrition MIS, do you face any of the following challenges concerning <u>data</u> <u>aggregation</u>? Check all that apply

Our data are spread over disparate systems, making data aggregation time consuming	→ Q46
The data are too fine-grained, making it difficult to aggregate them	→ Q46
Compiling all or some of our data requires manual data re-entry tasks	→ Q46
Other (please specify)	→ Q46
I do not face any challenges with data aggregation	→Q46

46. In using your school nutrition MIS, do you face any of the following challenges concerning **reporting**? **Check all that apply.**

Reports do not cover all topics relevant to management of the program	→ Q47
Reports are not available at the level of detail needed to support program management	→Q47
All or some of the reports to the state involve manual compilation	→Q47
Data is reported in a format to fulfill an old FNS/State report form and there is too much lag	→Q47
time to reprogram the system to meet the requirements of the new report form	
Other (please specify)	→Q47
I do not face any challenges with reporting	→ Q47

Section 3: Technical Features of School Nutrition MIS

Section 3 of the survey contains questions about the technical features of your current school nutrition MIS. In particular, we will cover the following topics:

- 1. Copyright Protection Copyright protection for your custom-built software.
- 2. Interoperability How your system connects and shares data with other systems.
- 3. Architecture and Deployment How you access and store data within your system.
- 4. Backup and Data Security How your system performs backups and secures sensitive student data.

Copyright Protection

The following questions focus on copyright protection for your in-house or custom developed software.

47. Is any component of your in-house or custom-built school nutrition MIS protected by copyright? **Check only one.** [Note to Programmer: Ask only if Question 1=1 or 2, that is "Custom software developed in-house" or "Custom software developed by a contractor (not including commercial offthe-shelf software that is later customized", else skip to Question 48.]

Yes	→Q48
No	→Q49
We do not have a custom-built MIS	→Q49
Don't know	→Q49

48. Who owns the copyright? Check all that apply.

Our SFA or LEA	→ Q49
The State	→ Q49
The Vendor/Contractor	→ Q49
Our Food Purchasing Coop	→ Q49
Our Food Service Management Company	→ Q49
Don't know	→ Q49

49. Can your current school nutrition MIS be shared for no cost as an open source with other SFAs?

Yes	→ Q50
No	→Q50
Don't know	→Q50

Interoperability

We will now ask about interoperability, which refers to how your school nutrition MIS connects to other data systems.

50. Do you or your software vendor implement any <u>interoperability standards</u> within your current school nutrition MIS? By interoperability standards, we mean following third-party defined protocols to support efficient interactions between software/data systems. **Check all that apply**.

Not part of any standards	→Q51
School Interoperability Framework (SIF)	→Q51
Ed-Fi Alliance	→Q51
Common Education Data Standards (CEDS)	→Q51
Other standards (please specify)	→Q51
Part of some standards but do not know the name	→Q51

51. To your knowledge, do you <u>share data</u> (send to or receive data from) in your school nutrition MIS with any of the following programs or agencies? **Check all that apply.**

SNAP State or Local Agencies	→Q52
TANF State or Local Agencies	→Q52
Foster Care/Department of Children and Family Services	→Q52
State or local Medicaid agencies	→Q52
Other (please specify)	→Q52
Do not share data	→ Q53

52. How do you <u>share data</u> (send to or receive data from) with the state agency that administers NSLP/SBP? **Check all that apply**.

Manually key in data to the State system	→ Q53
File import/export stored on a secure server	→ Q53
File import/export using removable media such as flash drive, CD, DVD, etc.	→ Q53
The state agency can log in to our school nutrition system	→ Q53
We can log in to the state school nutrition system	→Q53
Other collaborative platforms such as SharePoint	→ Q53
Other means (please specify)	→Q53

Architecture and Deployment

The next questions focus on how your school nutrition MIS is physically deployed and operated. In particular, FNS is interested in whether your data are stored locally or in the cloud.

53. Where are the data from your current school nutrition MIS stored? Check all that apply.

Locally at each school/site	→ Q54
At a central LEA/SFA location	→Q54
In the cloud, hosted by the vendor	→ Q54
Other (please specify)	→ Q54
Don't know	→Q54

54. What type of database management system does your school nutrition MIS use to store data? **Check** all that apply.

an that apply.				
	Oracle	→ Q55		
	Microsoft SQL	→ Q55		
	MySQL	→ Q55		
	PostgresSQL	→ Q55		
	IMB DB2	→ Q55		
	IBM Informix	→ Q55		
	SAP Sybase	→ Q55		
	Teradata	→ Q55		
	Non-relational database (e.g., MonoDB, Cassandra, HBase, Neo4j)	→ Q55		
	Other (please specify)	→ Q55		
	Don't know	→ Q55		

Data Security

The next questions focus on your backup and data security systems and protocols. "Protocols" refers to the set of rules and procedures that governs backup and security of your school nutrition MIS.

55. How long does your SFA <u>retain data</u> in your current school nutrition MIS? By retain we mean that the data are electronically available in your system without the need to restore the data from an archive. **Check only one.**

Just the current school year	→ Q56
1 year to less than 4 years	→Q56
4 years to less than 7 years	→ Q56
7 years to less than 10 years	→ Q56
Indefinitely	→ Q56
Other time period (please specify)	→ Q56

56. Do you have any of the following <u>security protocols</u> to protect the data in your current school nutrition MIS, specifically those related to personally identifiable information? **Check all that apply.**

Login requirements	END
Data encryption	END
Confidential data maintained in a secure environment	END
User profiles with access to only specific data	END
Virus protection	END
Security penetration testing	END
Virtual private network (VPN)	END
Training for users to protect from phishing (i.e., email scams)	END
Other (please specify)	END
Other (please specify)	END
Other (please specify)	END

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey. As we noted at the beginning, the information that you provided will be used only for the purposes of this study.

Please provide the following information about any staff members who have assisted you in completing this survey.

	Job Title	# of Years at SFA
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

If you have any questions about completion of this survey please contact Madeleine Levin at 202-774-1982 or **mlevin@impaqint.com**