

 **UPCOMING CLOSURES**

The Food Depository will be closed:

AUGUST 20	SEPTEMBER 7	SEPTEMBER 24
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No Food Depository deliveries will be made on the dates above. If any of our closures affect your regular delivery schedule, we will send separate communication to the primary contact we have listed in our system with the rescheduled dates provided by our transportation team. Please reply to that communication indicating whether the rescheduled delivery date is needed or not.

If our closures above affect your ordering window, please remember to omit those dates from your ordering window. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Partner Services team at partnerservices@gcfd.org or 773-247-FOOD (3663).

 TRAINING AND COMPLIANCE

Food Protection Manager (FPM) Certification Course

The Greater Chicago Food Depository offers monthly Food Protection Manager (FPM) Certification Courses for Partner Organizations. This is an in-person, one-day course held at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Participants will complete both the required training and certification exam on the same day.

Registration Guidelines:

- Registration is required
- Each course is limited to 25 participants
- A maximum of four (4) individuals per Partner program may register for each course to ensure equitable access for all organizations
- Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

[**Register here**](#)

Link2Feed Monthly Training

The Greater Chicago Food Depository provides monthly virtual Link2Feed trainings for new coordinators, staff, and volunteers who need to learn how to use the Link2Feed system. These sessions cover system navigation, household intake, best practices, and reporting to help Partners confidently use the system.



Each monthly Link2Feed session has its own registration link:

[Register for a Friday Training](#)

[Register for a Monday Training](#)

FY27 TEFAP Resources Now Available

The FY27 TEFAP Distribution Site Manual and FY27 Civil Rights Training materials are now available on the Partner Portal. TEFAP partners can also download the FY27 Training Log, which should be used to document annual Civil Rights training for all intake staff and volunteers. Please visit the [USDA Resources section of the Partner Portal](#) to access these materials.



SUMMER MEALS AND SUMMER EBT

The Summer Food Service Program is providing free meals to children under 18 when school is out for the summer. Meals and snacks are served free at participating program sites. Sites may be located in a variety of settings, including schools, parks, community centers, camps, libraries, apartment complexes, or churches. Encourage neighbors to visit [WeGotYoullinois.org/summer-meals](https://wegotheyoullinois.org/summer-meals) and use the "site finder" to locate a summer meal site near them.

We are also encouraging SNAP eligible families to check for automatic enrollment into Summer EBT benefits (also known as Sun Bucks). Many families are unaware that they are automatically enrolled to receive these benefits. Apply or check eligibility for SEBT at abe.illinois.gov.



HOLIDAY PROTEINS CORNER

We are looking forward to another successful holiday season starting in November! Please stay tuned to the Partner Bulletin as we roll out news and updates throughout the coming months.



FOOD EXTENSION GUIDE

Have a question on food product dating? What does the label "organic" mean? How long can you store and distribute frozen meat?

[Our Food Extension Guide](#) answers these questions and more. Feel free to share this resource with your guests. We also have a [guide for Salvageable Fruits and Vegetables](#), and the USDA has a [website](#). While we appreciate hearing from you when an item is of questionable quality, please note that donated product can vary. If you are discarding more than 20% of an item received, please report that to our Partner Services team with photos.