

Guidelines and Strategies for using the Safe Use of Salad Bars in Schools



Modifiable Fact Sheet

A new tool for State Fruit & Vegetable Nutrition Coordinators

The Safe Use of Salad Bars in Schools modifiable fact sheet was created to assist you in your work as a State Fruit & Vegetable Nutrition Coordinator. Please use the fact sheet to encourage salad bars in schools and to bridge gaps in discussions around salad bar food safety.

The modifiable fact sheet includes a set of guidelines, codes, and food safety procedures needed to safely operate salad bars in schools. It was developed using best practices from ASPHN partners and members including the Minnesota Department of Health and the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.

Before distributing the fact sheet to others in your state, you will need to customize it based on your state's specific needs and requirements. The following guidelines and strategies will help you successfully make those modifications so that the document can be used throughout your state. If you need additional assistance, please **contact ASPHN**.

Editing your modifiable fact sheet

- For ease of use, the fact sheet is formatted in Microsoft Word and can be opened in both Windows and Mac environments.
- The editable regions of the document contain brackets like these [Option] containing options in language and information.
- Please choose your option(s) or add your state's specific language in these editable regions.
- Be sure to save your fact sheet as you make changes.

Working collaboratively on your fact sheet

- Consider working with a team of colleagues who bring different areas of expertise to the implementation of school salad bars.
- Choose representatives from multiple local and state level agencies who view food safety as essential to public health and critical to achieving their objectives. Consider including agencies that provide basic nutrition, educate about healthy food choices, support local agriculture, or ensure food safety in foodservice or in personal practice.
- Collaborate on the language to ensure that the guidance is practical and the language is familiar and clear.



The Safe Use of Salad Bars in Schools editable fact sheet contains six pages of detailed information on the proper preparation and handling of salad bar items.

Customizing your modifiable fact sheet for the Safe Use of Salad Bars in Schools

Distributing your finished fact sheet

- Once you have achieved consensus and your document is complete, please save a master copy of the fact sheet.
- Create a PDF (portable document format) of the master.
- Use **ONLY** the PDF file for distribution.
- Distribute the fact sheet to local health jurisdictions.
- Advise local health jurisdictions to consider the Safe Use of Salad Bars in Schools fact sheet when making their rules and communicating them to schools.
- Publicize the availability of the fact sheet through all available communication outlets in your state and local government offices.

***“Involving practitioners
in the review process
improves the document
by ensuring that the
guidance is practical and the
language familiar and clear
to the target audience.”***

Call to Action

In order for your state to derive the most benefit from the Safe Use of Salad Bars in Schools fact sheet, we encourage you to have your final PDF ready for distribution in July or August, when training is taking place. This will ensure that the fact sheet is used during training sessions.



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