

What is Halal?

Halal is an Arabic word meaning lawful or permitted. It is most often used to refer to foods that are permissible for Muslims to consume.

Why is Halal Observance Important to Muslims?

Access to halal foods is directly tied to food security since a majority of Muslims, regardless of socio-economic class, will forego eating to preserve their religious practice.



Our Goal:

Ensure that Muslim students who observe halal have equitable access to Maine's universal school meals through the implementation of a certified halal program, promoting community education and outreach, conducting halal foodservice training and oversight, and establishing community trust and support.



An Overview of the Halal School Meals Network (HSMN)

Halal School Meals Network

Equitable access to Maine's universal school meals

Resources & Contact

Halal School Meals Network:

www.halalschoolmeals.org;

foodforallservices@gmail.com

IFANCA:

www.ifanca.org;

halalfoodservice@ifanca.org.



Why is Access to and Availability of Halal Foods Important?

Most Muslim Americans (83%) observe halal dietary guidelines, according to the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU)'s 2022 American Muslim Poll.

How Can You Get Involved?

- Join the HSMN Community Advisory Council
 - Quarterly meetings
 - Stipend provided
- Monthly Network Meetings (virtual)
 - Email foodforallservices@gmail.com to learn more!

When Will Halal Meals Be Served?

After spring break, tentatively the week of April 22!



How is a Halal Program Implemented?

Similar to allergen and gluten free programs, implementing a halal program requires total compliance and oversight with clear regulatory guidelines and training that encompass every aspect of the supply chain.

IFANCA (Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America) is partnering with us to provide third-party oversight so we can serve halal-certified meals to students.