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Yes, Food Is Inspected During the Shutdown —But Some Facilities May Not Be

On a press call on January 23, Steven Mandernach, the executive director of the Association of Food & Drug Officials (AFDO), wanted to be clear that food for sale at grocery stores and restaurants **is still being inspected during the current government shutdown.**

Mandernach explained that the Food and Drug Administration regularly relies on state inspection agents, who are not bankrolled by the federal budget, to conduct safety checks on the items being sold. In fact, state agencies generally complete anywhere between **60 and 70 percent of the work needed to collect data for the FDA.** [Read more...](#)

Conversations with AFDO

Conversations with AFDO will release a new podcast this week!

Joe Corby, former AFDO executive director, shares the story of Partners with a Common Purpose, an initiative for creating change through a shared vision with food and medical products industry representatives. This shared vision recognizes a common purpose embraced and supported by government regulators and industry in improving public health and consumer services.

Go to <https://afdo.podbean.com/> or download the Podbean app to view or listen to the app:

[Apple App Store](#)

[Google Play Store](#)

AFDO Announces Availability of FDA Scientific Conference Grant Program Scholarships

The Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) received a scientific conference grant from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The purpose of the award is to provide scholarships to state and local food & drug regulatory personnel to attend the 2019 AFDO Annual Educational Conference (AEC). This year's AEC is being held June 22-26, 2019 at the Grant Hyatt Atlanta in Buckhead, Atlanta, GA.

We will be able to fund a **limited** number of representatives to the conference. Applications due by **March 1, 2019**. [Learn more and apply...](#)

Help Reduce Tobacco's Impact on America's Health – Become an FDA Tobacco Regulatory Science Fellow!

Be part of the team at the FDA Center for Tobacco Products (CTP) and help reduce the impact of tobacco on public health. Apply before March 1 at 3:00pm ET for the FDA Tobacco Regulatory Science Fellowship!

This collaborative program between the FDA Center for Tobacco Products (CTP) and the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) is a paid, 12-month multidisciplinary residential experience at CTP in Maryland. Fellows are placed in various areas within CTP, including compliance and enforcement; health communication and education; administrative management; regulations; or science.

As a fellow, you will actively participate in the development of science-based public health strategies, serve as the lead for defined projects, and meet with policy leaders over the course of a year. The fellowship culminates with a formal presentation to CTP leadership about project outcomes and lessons learned. You will be awarded a stipend based on salary history (up to \$95,000). In addition, you may be eligible to receive a relocation fund (not to exceed \$10,000).

To find out more, visit the [FDA Tobacco Regulatory Science Fellowship website](#) or call the NAM at (202) 334-1506.

AFDO Continuing Education Tuition Reimbursement Awards

In 2017, AFDO established a non-traditional continuing education tuition reimbursement fund to be awarded annually to worthy officials who are currently employed at a state, local, tribal, or territorial government agency and are returning to college or continuing their education to benefit the food and/or drug safety arena. Each award amount is not to exceed \$1500 and is not renewable.

All applications must be received by **April 15 of the current year** to be considered for the current year's award.

Professional Development Grant

The AFDO Professional Development Committee will again fund a Professional Development Grant intended to benefit IFPTI Fellowship graduates, currently employed with a regulatory agency, that may not otherwise be able to participate in the annual AFDO Training Conference. The grant award may include reimbursement of conference registration fees, travel expenses, hotel costs, incidentals, and food per diem. Disbursement of the grant monies will require a completed reimbursement form along with a paid receipt of expenses. This year the AFDO Conference will be held in Atlanta Georgia June 22-26, 2019.

Grant recipients are required to: be an IFPTI graduate, attend the pre-conference workshop and committee meetings, be a member of an AFDO committee, and attend the conference in its entirety.

The application must be received by February 1. Grants will be awarded and applicants notified by March 1.

[Apply Now](#)



Register for the 2019 Consumer Food Safety Education Conference

Early bird [registration has opened](#) for From Consumers to Chefs: Food Safety Education Matters, a two-day conference, March 7-8, 2019, filled with [take-away strategies for changing people's food safety knowledge and behaviors](#). This seventh in a series of consumer food safety education conferences is hosted by the non-profit [Partnership for Food Safety Education](#). The

The conference, expected to be attended by 400 health and food safety educators from across the United States, will explore influences on consumers; the way to effect behavior change; and strategies to better engage everyone in modeling proper food preparation and hand hygiene practices.

Don't miss the early bird registration rates – [register now here](#).

MCAFD0 Save-the-Date

What: 2019 MCAFD0 Annual Educational Conference

When: February 26-27, 2019 (8:00 am to 5:00 pm each day)

Location: [Bluemont Hotel, 1212 Bluemont Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502](#)

Check out the [MCAFD0 website](#) for more details or to register!

Nominate a Worthy Candidate for an AFDO Award

AFDO's awards are presented annually at the Annual Educational Conference during the Wiley Award banquet. The awards are administered by the Awards Committee Chair, with subcommittees for the Wiley and Associate Member that are chaired by the immediate past recipient.

The AFDO Board of Directors has increased the amount of each of the scholarship awards to \$2500 beginning with the 2019 awards. Each is awarded annually to qualified undergraduate students in their third year of study.

Here's a list of each AFDO Award:

[Achievement](#)
[Industry Associate Member](#)
[Elliot O. Grosvenor](#)
[Scholarship](#)

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Other Training Opportunities



Preventive Controls for Human Foods and Foreign Supplier Verification Programs

Preventive Controls for Human Foods Course (PCQI)

[Course Information](#)[Course Schedule](#)

Foreign Supplier Verification Programs Course (FSVP)

[Course Information](#)[Course Schedule](#)

EAS Consulting Group Training

Developing Vitamin, Mineral and Supplement Products for Commercial and Compliance Success

February 7, 2019 at 1:00 PM Eastern

EAS One-Day Dietary Supplement GMP Refresher Training Series

February 5, 2019

Riverside, CA

Webinar: Qualified Individual under FSVP

April 3, 2019

Ensuring Regulatory Compliance of GMP Laboratories

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[Seminar](#)

[April 2-3, 2019](#)

[Philadelphia, PA](#)

[May 7, 2019](#)

[Denton, TX](#)

[August 13, 2019](#)

[Andover, MA](#)

[November 12, 2019](#)

[Long Island, NY](#)

Laws and Regulations Committee Updates

Laws and Regulations Committee Update

A collection of current food, drug, device, and consumer product regulatory issues and news

[Update from 1/22 - 1/25, 2019](#)

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