



# PROFESSIONAL GROWTH CONFERENCE

**March 2 & 3, 2026**

Gateway Conference Center  
2100 Greenhills Dr, Ames, IA

SNA Iowa is excited to bring you an wonderful lineup for the 2026 Professional Growth Conference. We have been working hard to put together a great schedule that addresses topics that YOU have asked for. Day 1 will include an opportunity to register to take the SNS Exam, an educational session on preparing for an Administrative Review, and an expanded one-on-one with our industry professionals. Day 2 will focus on finances with a great session on financial management followed by a Q&A with a panel of school business managers from schools of all sizes. We will wrap up the morning celebrating the graduation of our Inagural Future Leaders Academy class. Finally, the Iowa Department of Education will start the afternoon with updates and move right into the annual USDA Commodity Food Show. It's going to be a great two days filled with networking, learning, & celebrating!

## AGENDA

### Monday, March 2

11:30 am - 12:00 pm	Registration (lunch not provided)
12:00 - 1:45 pm	Preparing for an AR
2:00 - 5:00 pm	Industry One-on-One
5:00 - 6:00 pm	Cocktail Reception (cash bar)

### Tuesday, March 3

8:00 - 8:30 am	Registration
8:00 - 8:45 am	Breakfast
8:45 - 11:30 am	Financial Management Business Manager Panel SNA Iowa Update
11:30 - 11:45 am	Future Leaders Academy Graduation
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Iowa Department of Education Update USDA Food Show Announcements

**To register for the USDA  
Commodity Show, contact  
Sarah White at  
[sarah.white@iowa.gov](mailto:sarah.white@iowa.gov) or use  
the link on our website.**



We have reserved a block of rooms for the evenings of March 1st & 2nd at The Gateway Hotel for \$122/night + tax. To make a reservation call 1-800-FOR-AMES and tell them you are with School Nutrition Association Iowa or visit our website [snaiaowa.org/professional-growth-conference](https://snaiaowa.org/professional-growth-conference) to find the booking link.

## SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

### Preparing for an Administrative Review (1.5 CEU's)

Preparing and planning for an administrative or procurement review can be stressful and overwhelming. This session will discuss:

- Common corrective actions found during AR
- Share best practices to prevent corrective actions
- Share best practices to prepare for an AR
- Provide resources for school meal programs
- Review common findings and preventative corrective actions for the procurement administrative review

### Financial Management for Child Nutrition Programs in Schools (1 CEU)

Tools and tips for planning a successful child nutrition program budget. Let's have a conversation about planning an annual budget. What are the potential revenue sources and planned expenses. How do you develop a budget plan that works for your program?

### School Business Manager Panel Q&A (1 CEU)

A one hour long session of Q & A with school business managers, talking about the hot topics. Come with questions in mind, and hopefully leave with answers! Think of topics like financial alignment, data and reporting, strategic planning, and collaboration (just to name a few!)

### Industry One-on-One (3 CEU's)

About 20+ Industry Representatives will be present for our 2nd annual Industry One-on-One. This quick moving activity is a great time to speak directly with industry representatives and ask questions you may have or just get to the know them a bit better!

## REGISTRATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_ Member #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a question regarding AR's to submit to our presenters? \_\_\_\_\_

#### FEES:

**DAY ONE:** ☐ Member \$60  
(3/2/26) ☐ Nonmember \$80

**DAY TWO:** ☐ Member \$60  
(3/3/26) ☐ Nonmember \$80

**BOTH DAYS:** ☐ Member \$100  
☐ Nonmember \$150

**LATE FEE:** ☐ \$20 (after Feb 15)

**TOTAL DUE:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### PAYMENT:

☐ Check (enclosed) ☐ Purchase Order (enclosed)

Want to pay by credit card? [Register online at sna Iowa.org](http://Register online at sna Iowa.org)

Mail Registration & Payment to  
SNAI, 2017 Aikman Dr, Ames, IA 50010

**\*\*\*NOTE NEW ADDRESS\*\*\***

**Questions? Contact April Cuddeback, 515-630-8652 or [sna Iowa@msn.com](mailto:snaiowa@msn.com)**

**\*\* Registration is non-refundable, but is transferable for same event, same year.**

Please keep a copy of this form for your receipt\*\*