



42nd Annual

National Food Policy CONFERENCE

Examining key food policy issues affecting consumers, the food industry and government

MARCH 14 & 15, 2019 • RENAISSANCE WASHINGTON, DC DOWNTOWN HOTEL

For 42 years, the National Food Policy Conference has been a Washington institution and a unique collaboration between consumer advocates, the food industry and government. The conference is organized by the Consumer Federation of America and is a key national gathering for those interested in agriculture, food and nutrition policy.

This year's conference will explore an array of important food policy issues facing consumers and the food industry. The conference will take a closer look at how the political landscape will influence food policy during the 116th Congress, examine the environmental, economic, and social sustainability challenges confronting the food system, and look at food innovations and potential regulatory responses on the horizon. Speakers and panelists will examine timely food policy topics including the intersection of food and healthcare policy, reforms to food assistance programs, new business models to reduce food waste, the implications of legalized marijuana on food policy, and fresh produce safety.

➔ **For updates and the latest information, go to www.consumerfed.org.**

Promotional Support provided by Powell Tate Food, Nutrition and Wellness Practice.

Program

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019

- 8:30 am **Welcome**
- 8:45 am **Keynote Address**
- 9:30 am **Facilitated Discussion: Food Policy in the 116th Congress**
With the second half of Donald Trump's administration well underway, and a new Congress settled in, where is food policy headed? A panel of experts will discuss the changes underway, what to expect next, and the role that both federal and state policy may play in promoting better diets and access to healthy food.
- 10:45 am **Networking and Refreshment Break**
- 11:15 am **Breakout Panels**
- Panel 1: Barriers to Benefits**
Every year, millions of Americans eligible for food assistance benefits do not access them. In addition to ongoing education and enrollment challenges, a spate of natural disasters and more restrictive immigration policies have introduced new obstacles. Panelists will discuss what policymakers should do to ensure food aid goes where it is most needed.
- Panel 2: Marijuana: FDA, States, and an Uncharted Regulatory Frontier**
Food and beverage companies are investing billions in marijuana, even as the drug remains illegal under federal law. Will profit motives lead to aggressive marketing tactics that exacerbate drug abuse problems? Are states up to the regulatory challenges of "Big Pot"? What are the impacts of legalization in early adopting jurisdictions? Panelists will explore the implications of legalized marijuana on food policy.
- Panel 3: The Food Waste Economy**
Established companies and start-ups alike are creating new business models to take advantage of opportunities to reduce food waste. A panel of entrepreneurs and experts will describe what companies are doing to turn food waste into a profit, how public policy can spur further innovation, and the obstacles to greater success.
- 12:30 pm **Lunch and Keynote Address**
- 2:00 pm **Break**
- 2:15 pm **Facilitated Discussion: Environmentally Sustainable Food**
What are the environmental challenges to our food production system that deserve the most attention? What innovations and policy reforms are needed to address those challenges? A panel of experts will tackle these and related questions, and explore the tensions that producers face between preserving natural resources, meeting customer expectations, and protecting the bottom line.
- 3:10 pm **Facilitated Discussion: Economically Sustainable Food**
From the farm to retail, the food system is undergoing dramatic economic changes. How are consumers shifting their food spending, and what are the implications going forward? Who will thrive in the new food economy, and who will get left out? A panel of experts examines how the food economy has changed in recent years, and the economic trends today that will matter most.
- 4:05 pm **Facilitated Discussion: Socially Sustainable Food**
Recent surveys show consumers are increasingly suspicious of the food system, with growing concerns about the plight of farmworkers, farm animals, rural communities, and other stakeholders. Panelists discuss how the food system has responded to those concerns and the role of public policy.
- 5:00 pm **End**

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FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019

8:30 am **Keynote Address**

9:15 am **Breakout Panels**

Panel 1: Let Food Be Thy Medicine

Diet-related disease inflicts enormous costs on the U.S. economy, over a trillion dollars per year according to one estimate. A panel of experts will discuss the role of public policy in encouraging healthier eating, including whether public benefits programs like Medicaid and Medicare should do more to influence diet.

Panel 2: Fresh Produce Safety—Learning from Foodborne Illness Outbreaks

Foodborne illness outbreaks tied to fresh produce have dominated news headlines in the past year. A panel of experts will discuss what policymakers, growers, and retailers are doing to prevent the next outbreak, and whether it is enough.

Panel 3: Casualties of Trade Wars

China and other countries have levied tariffs on billions of dollars of U.S. food exports in response to recent trade disputes. Panelists discuss how these policies are affecting farmers, consumers, and global food security.

10:30 am **Break**

10:45 am **Facilitated Discussion: The Next New Food**

From cell-cultured meat to gene editing, innovations abound in the food space. How are these innovations, and the regulatory responses to them, matching up to consumer expectations? What can they tell us about where the food system is headed? A panel of experts explores the impact of novel foods and food processes.

12:00 pm **Keynote Address**

12:30 pm **End**

Registration

REGISTER ONLINE AT www.consumerfed.org

Registration Fees

Includes all sessions, conference materials, lunch on Tuesday and continental breakfast on Wednesday

Industry, trade and professional association representatives and nutritionists or dietitians employed by industry	\$425
Government, academic and non-CFA public interest groups and independent nutritionists and dietitians	\$175
Designated representatives of CFA member groups	\$120
College or graduate students	\$75

CFA will be applying for Continuing Education credits from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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