



USDA
Food & Nutrition Service

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September 15, 2022

Child Nutrition Programs

School Year 2022-2023



United States Department of Agriculture



Keep Kids Fed Act (KKFA)

Signed June 25, 2022



United States Department of Agriculture

Nationwide Waiver Authority

- Authority given to USDA by Congress under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)
- Broad authority allowed measures that:
 - Increased costs to the Federal Government
 - Changed meal pattern rules, eligibility, and reimbursement rates
- FFCRA timeframe:
 - First granted in March 2020
 - Last renewed in September 2021
 - Expired June 30, 2022

On June 25, President Biden signed the Keep Kids Fed Act, providing limited extension of nationwide waiver authority



The Keep Kids Fed Act



- Temporary increase for per-meal reimbursement rates (through June 2023) in:
 - National School Lunch Program
 - School Breakfast Program
 - Child & Adult Care Food Program
- Temporary higher reimbursement rates for Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) family day care homes through June 2023
- Extension of USDA's nationwide waiver authority for summer feeding operations through September 2022
- Limited nationwide waiver authority through June 2023



The Keep Kids Fed Act: What it Does Not Do

- No authority to issue nationwide waivers for SY 2022-2023 that have a cost to the Federal Government
- No ability to operate Seamless Summer Option during the school year and provide all meals free
- No expansion of area eligibility during the school year
- No SFSP rates for school meals during the school year



Food Buying Guide Tools and Resources



- Transitional Standards for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium
- Food item search by selected Child Nutrition Program
- Food Buying Guide Mobile App Training Videos
- Spanish captioned webinars:
 - Navigating the Food Buying Guide Calculator
 - How to Maximize the Exhibit A Grains Tool

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/food-buying-guide-for-child-nutrition-programs>



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Additional Funding Resources



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Keep Kids Fed Act: School Meal Reimbursements



- Temporary Reimbursement
 - 40 cents per NSLP lunch
 - 15 cents per SBP breakfast
- Effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023



Keep Kids Fed Act: CACFP Reimbursements



- Financial support available in SY 2022-2023:
 - Additional Reimbursement: 10 cents for all CACFP meals and snacks, including afterschool
 - Reimbursement at the higher Tier I rate for all family or group day care homes in CACFP
- Effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023



Supply Chain Assistance Funds

- In July, **\$943 million** in funding made available through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) as authorized under the CCC Charter Act [15 U.S.C. 714]
- Yesterday, an additional **\$471.5 million** has been available through the CCC.
- Provides an additional funding to address ongoing supply chain challenges experienced by school food authorities participating in the NSLP and/or SBP
- **State agencies will distribute SCA funds to school food authorities for the exclusive purchase of unprocessed and minimally processed domestic foods**
 - Discretionary option to reserve some funds for State purchase of local foods for distribution to school food authorities



Check Out the Ways USDA is Supporting Schools!



Annual inflation adjustments and temporary **reimbursement rate increase**



Nearly **\$2.5 Billion** in **Supply Chain Assistance** funds for schools



\$7.1 Million in **Team Nutrition Training Grants**



\$2.8 Million is available for the **School Breakfast Program Expansion Grants** targeted to schools in the U.S. Territories



\$30 Million distributed to States for **Equipment Assistance Grants** for schools – more information coming soon!



FY 2021, the **Farm to School Grant Program** awarded **\$12 million** to 177 farm to school projects across 45 states and the District of Columbia – stay tuned for FY 2022 grants!



United States Department of Agriculture

American Rescue Plan ESSER Funds

- Provided \$122 billion to States, Tribal Organizations, and local providers to:
 - help safely reopen State educational agencies and schools
 - sustain the safe operation of schools in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency



American Rescue Plan ESSER Funds

- Requires States to submit to ED plans for use of the funds, which for Child Nutrition Programs and school purposes may include:
 - Equipment improvements such as food truck purchase and operations for school meal service and delivery;
 - Installation of wi-fi and mobile hotspots in food trucks and buses delivering school meals;
 - Expansion of indoor seating and outdoor seating at schools to maximize social distancing; and
 - Additional duty bonuses for staff making meal deliveries to schools on Saturdays.



Treasury Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) funds



- Provided \$350 billion in funds to State, Tribal, and local to support their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency

Treasury Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) funds



- Funds may be used for purposes such as:
 - Count food assistance, including food assistance delivered through child nutrition programs like school meals, as eligible for funding support in response to impacts of the pandemic on households and communities
 - Providing premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work, such as educational, school nutrition, and other work required to operate a school facility.

Affordable Connectivity Program

- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act replaced the Federal Communication Commission's Emergency Broadband Program with a longer-term broadband program called the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)
- Included over \$14 billion to modify and extend the ACP
- Households with a child approved to receive free or reduced-price meals under the NSLP and SBP, during the past 12 months, including children who attend CEP schools, are eligible to receive discounted broadband service under the ACP
- Discounts received by a household from the ACP are not income and as such are not considered for purposes of determining eligibility in the Child Nutrition Programs
- For more information, visit: <https://www.fcc.gov/acp> or <https://tech.ed.gov/broadband/ACP/>

