

Old Capitol Building  
PO Box 47200  
Olympia, WA 98504-7200

k12.wa.us



Washington Office of Superintendent of  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**  
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

July 1, 2024

Action Required  
Due date: September 1, 2024  
 Informational

**BULLETIN NO. 043-24 CHILD NUTRITION SERVICES**

**TO:** Educational Service District Superintendents  
School District Superintendents  
School District Business Managers  
School District Food Service Supervisors  
Administrators of Select Private Schools  
Charter Schools  
Tribal Compact Schools

**FROM:** Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

**RE:** National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs Application for School Year 2024–25 — Public School District/Private Schools

**CONTACT:** Program Specialists

Debra Calhoun	509-323-2751	<a href="mailto:debra.calhoun@k12.wa.us">debra.calhoun@k12.wa.us</a>
Jamie Hawkins	360-972-0403	<a href="mailto:jamie.hawkins@k12.wa.us">jamie.hawkins@k12.wa.us</a>
Kari Lund	360-810-1163	<a href="mailto:kari.lund@k12.wa.us">kari.lund@k12.wa.us</a>
Pam Mahre	360-688-3352	<a href="mailto:pam.mahre@k12.wa.us">pam.mahre@k12.wa.us</a>
Hannah Powell	360-764-9329	<a href="mailto:hannah.powell@k12.wa.us">hannah.powell@k12.wa.us</a>
Sadaf Ijaz	360-701-4561	<a href="mailto:sadaf.ijaz@k12.wa.us">sadaf.ijaz@k12.wa.us</a>
Annie Sage	360-584-3231	<a href="mailto:annie.sage@k12.wa.us">annie.sage@k12.wa.us</a>

## **PURPOSE/BACKGROUND**

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is pleased to release the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or School Breakfast Program (SBP) sponsor application materials for School Year (SY) 2024–25.

Information about Child Nutrition Eligibility & Education Benefit (CNEEB) application materials can be found on the [Application & Verification webpage](#) and on the [OSPI Bulletins and Memos webpage](#).

**The renewal application will open July 8, 2024, and must be submitted by September 1, 2024.**

## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The NSLP and SBP application is a two-part process: the Washington Integrated Nutrition System (WINS) application and the SY 2024–25 Renewal Document Submission Form.

Local Education Agencies (LEA) that change their legal name resulting in a new Federal Tax Identification Number (FEIN) must report changes to OSPI before starting the application process.

### 1. Submit Sponsor Applications, Site Application, and Calendars in WINS

WINS is a web-based electronic system used to collect sponsor and site information, as well as process claims for reimbursement.

- Use the SY 2024–25 National School Lunch Program & School Breakfast Program Application Checklist (*Attachment 1*) for step-by-step instructions.
- Information on WINS and job aids can be found on the [WINS webpage](#) or in WINS under the information drop down.

### 2. Submit the SY 2024–25 Document Submission Form

Required information related to Milk Substitute Notification, Paid Lunch Equity, and operations under House Bill 1238 must be submitted through the [SY 2024–25 Document Submission form](#). Reference the SY 2024–25 National School Lunch Program & School Breakfast Program Application Checklist (*Attachment 1*) for details.

### 3. Submit Your Application

**Applications are due by September 1, 2024.** Late or incomplete applications may not be approved in time to claim reimbursement for August or September meals.

### 4. Child Nutrition Programs Permanent Agreement

Sponsors of USDA Child Nutrition Programs enter into a permanent agreement at the time of their initial approval. This agreement stays in effect during subsequent years of approved program operation. To view the Child Nutrition Programs Permanent Agreement terms and conditions please reference your copy or the [Sample Permanent Agreement](#).

## ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

### Civil Rights Requirements

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) participating in the USDA school meal programs are required to inform potentially eligible persons of their rights to receive program benefits. The [USDA Civil Rights Non-Discrimination Statement](#) must be placed on program materials **widely disseminated** to students and families. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Student handbooks containing program information
- School nutrition services webpages
- Letters to families
- Menus and brochures
- Online meal application

Washington State has additional protected classes that are not outlined in the USDA Civil Rights Non-Discrimination Statement. **Public School Districts and Public Charter Schools must put both the USDA, and the schools' non-discrimination statement on widely disseminated program materials.**

Please review the [Civil Rights Reference Sheet](#) for more information on requirements in Child Nutrition Programs.

### Afterschool Snack Program

Afterschool snacks may be claimed for students through age 18 who attend an afterschool program Monday through Friday. This program must provide regularly scheduled educational or enrichment activities. These activities must be structured and supervised.

Sites with 50% or more Free or Reduced-Price meal eligibility as of the most current October Building Data, are reimbursed at the free rate for the Afterschool Snack Program. Otherwise, the afterschool snack must be claimed by each student's meal eligibility category.

If an Afterschool Snack Program is located at a site that does not meet the 50% or more free and reduced-price meal eligibility, the site may qualify by using data from a school within the same attendance area that does qualify. Alternatively, snacks may be claimed according to individual student eligibility status.

## Food Service Management Companies (FSMC), Inter-Agency Agreements, and Vendor Agreements

### Food Service Management Companies (FSMC)

- Sponsors may contract with an FSMC, which is a commercial enterprise or nonprofit organization that manages any aspect of the school's food service program.
- LEAs must:
  - Use OSPI templates for request for proposals and contracts.

- Have their request for proposals and contracts reviewed by OSPI prior to the bid process and before signing contracts. The contract must include all services performed by the FSMC.
- Details regarding contract requirements can be found on the [Food Service Management Companies webpage](#).

### Inter-Agency Agreements

- May be made between two Child Nutrition Program sponsors and describe meal services provided for an agreed upon fixed price per meal.
- Inter-agency agreements must be submitted to OSPI with the submission of the renewal application.

### Vended Meal Agreements

- These agreements exist between public/private schools or RCCIs and a commercial enterprise or nonprofit organization.
- The vendor is the merchandiser of meals and/or meal components which are sold at a set fixed price per meal or meal component.
- Vended meals must be procured following federal procurement guidelines.

Inter-agency agreements, vendor agreements, and the FSMC/Vendor Fact Sheet must be approved by OSPI **prior** to meals being served. Inter-agency and vended meal agreement templates can be found on the [Food Service Management Companies webpage](#).

Failure to submit an **approved and executed** FSMC contract, inter-agency agreement, vended meal agreement(s), and approved FSMC/Vendor Fact Sheet in WINS prior to September 1, 2024, may result in the denial of the meal reimbursement and the termination of USDA food deliveries. As a condition of continuing to operate the NSLP, you must conduct a reconciliation of USDA foods inventory by August 31, 2024. This will ensure that the FSMC has credited the district for the value of all USDA donated foods received for use in the sponsors' food service.

If you have questions, please contact your program specialist.

### Paid Lunch Equity Compliance

The USDA requires LEAs to ensure sufficient funds are provided to the nonprofit school food service account for meals served to students not eligible for free or reduced-price meals. This requirement may be met through the prices charged for "paid" meals or through other non-Federal dollars provided to the non-profit school food service account. Under the Consolidated Appropriates Act of 2024, LEAs with a positive or zero balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2023, are exempt from Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) pricing requirements. LEAs with a negative balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2023, must follow the PLE requirements.

LEAs must report how they intend to meet PLE requirements through the SY 2024–25 Document Submission Form. For more information on Paid Lunch Equity in SY 2024–25, visit the [NSLP Requirements and Materials webpage](#).

## Adult Meal Prices

It is recommended LEAs set an adult meal price to allow teachers, administrators, and parents to demonstrate their support of the Child Nutrition Programs by occasionally eating with their students.

- The price for adult meals must be set high enough to cover the actual cost of the meal, including food, labor, supplies, and indirect cost rate, if applicable.
- The adult lunch price must be the actual cost (as described above) or the price charged to students paying the full meal price, plus the value of federal reimbursement for paid student meals (currently \$0.42) and the USDA Food Value (currently \$0.3650).
- Federal reimbursement rates and the USDA Food Value are released in July of each year; therefore, these rates may change.

For additional information, please review the [Adult Meal Pricing Reference Sheet](#).

## Child Nutrition Financial Report (CNFR) in WINS

Returning *private* school sponsors must complete the CNFR in WINS as part of the renewal agreement. The CNFR compiles financial data about School Meal Program operations in the prior program year. For SY 2024–25, the CNFR will represent data from the SY 2023–24 School Meal Program operations. The CNFR is due in WINS by December 31.

For more information on the CNFR, please review the [Child Nutrition Financial Report Reference Sheet](#).

## Audit Requirements

Sponsors are required to maintain records that identify all federal funds expended and recorded on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA). Such funds shall be identified by their unique Assistance Listing Number (ALN). The ALN for NSLP is 10.555 and for SBP is 10.553. Federal Award Identification Numbers (FAINs) for Child Nutrition Programs can be found on the [Accounting Reporting Codes Reference Sheet](#). Sponsors must make grant records available for review and/or audit by officials of federal agencies, the State Auditor's Office, the Government Accountability Office, and OSPI or designee.

Sponsors expending \$750,000 or more in federal funds from all federal sources combined in any fiscal year must receive an audit in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F. Please note the federal audit threshold will increase to \$1,000,000 for fiscal years beginning on or after October 1, 2024. Audits must be:

- Completed within nine months of the end of the fiscal year, and

- Submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) by the earlier of 30 days following receipt of the completed audit or nine months following the end of the fiscal year.

If a tribe or tribal organization does not make the reporting information publicly available on the FAC website in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F Section 200.512(b)(2), a copy of the data collection form and reporting package must be submitted to OSPI.

If you have any questions regarding audits, please email [cnsfiscalservices@k12.wa.us](mailto:cnsfiscalservices@k12.wa.us).

## INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact your assigned program specialist or call the OSPI TTY number at 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

Tennille Jeffries-Simmons  
Chief of Staff

Leanne Eko  
Chief Nutrition Officer  
Child Nutrition Services

CR:ln  
Attachment 1: SY 2024–25 National School Lunch Program & School Breakfast Program  
Application Checklist

### **Assurance of Civil Rights Compliance**

*In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.*

*Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.*

*To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete [Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), from any USDA office, by calling 866-632-9992 or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:*

1. **Mail:**  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **Fax:** 833-256-1665 or 202-690-7442; or
3. **Email:** [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

*OSPI provides equal access to all programs and services without discrimination based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at 360-725-6162/TTY: 360-664-3631; or P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200; or [equity@k12.wa.us](mailto:equity@k12.wa.us).*