

OSPI Child Nutrition Services Grants Reference Sheet

Breakfast Meals for Kids Grant

The Washington State Legislature provides funding for annual competitive grants available to public school districts. Funds may be used to:

- ✓ Start a School Breakfast or other school meal program;
- ✓ Increase participation and/or quality in an established meal program;
- ✓ Or improve the equipment and facilities used in an established meal program.

All federal, state, and local procurement laws must be followed.

How to qualify for the grant:

- ✓ Be a public school district, charter school, or tribal compact school.
- ✓ Sponsor a school meal program, these include: School Breakfast Program (SBP), National School Lunch Program (NSLP).
- ✓ Your school(s) may prepare meals on-site, receive meals from another school that participates in a USDA Child Nutrition Program; or may contract with a food service management company.
- ✓ Sponsors must be in good standing to receive grant funds. Prior to awarding funds, OSPI will ensure that sponsors are in good standing with all USDA Child Nutrition Program operations.

This funding may be used to improve or start the SBP or other school meal program by:

- ✓ Purchasing food service equipment.
- ✓ Providing staff training.
- ✓ Marketing your program.
- ✓ Providing outreach to students, families, and school staff, including translation services.
- ✓ Improving efficiency, sanitation, or safety in the food service area.

Priority will be given to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that:

- Start or reestablish a SBP or Breakfast After the Bell (BAB) program
- Funds will support access to breakfast in a [reengagement program](#)



- Programs that have never received the Child Nutrition Grant or [Healthy Kids-Healthy Schools Grant](#) within the past 5 years.

Grant Evaluation:

Proposals will be scored and ranked based on responses provided in the Breakfast Meals for Kids 2025–26 Application Workbook. Please review the Breakfast Meals for Kids Grant application resources on the [OSPI Child Nutrition Grants webpage](#) for more details.

Grant Timeline & Details

- ✓ September 15, 2025 — Grant Application Materials are made available on the [OSPI Child Nutrition Grants webpage](#).
- ✓ October 31, 2025 — Grant Application submission ends at 11:59 pm PST.
- ✓ By November 20, 2025 — Awardees notified.
- ✓ June 30, 2026 — All grant activities must be completed and all equipment on-site.

Resources

- [OSPI CNS Grants Webpage](#)

Acronym Reference

- LEA – Local Education Agency
- OSPI – Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- USDA – United States Department of Agriculture