

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 Program (SBP) or other school meal program
- ✓ Increase participation and/or quality in an established meal program
- ✓ 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 SBP or 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 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 the school meal 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
- Use funds to support access to breakfast in a [reengagement program](#)



- Programs that have not received a Child Nutrition Grant or [Healthy Kids—Healthy Schools Grant](#)—Nutrition Category within the past 4 years

Grant Evaluation:

Proposals will be scored and ranked based on responses provided in the Breakfast Meals for Kids 2026–27 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 21, 2026—Grant Application Materials are made available on the [OSPI Child Nutrition Grants webpage](#)
- ✓ October 30, 2026—Grant Application submission ends at 11:59 pm PST
- ✓ By November 30, 2026—Awardees notified
- ✓ June 30, 2027—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