

School Breakfast Expansion Grant Program

The Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) is providing grants to eligible schools to increase school breakfast participation by implementing breakfast in the classroom, "grab and go" breakfast and/or second chance breakfast in one or more of their schools. The grant's goal is to increase participation in the School Breakfast Program in the awarded school districts. *Funded schools must agree as a condition of the grant to offer breakfast at no charge to all students if not already doing so*.

Grant recipients will receive:

- up to \$8,000 per school to support the start-up costs for implementing such a breakfast program; and
- technical assistance to ensure the successful implementation of a sustainable program.

School Eligibility:

- Within the school to which a grant would be made, 70% or more of all students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, or the school already offers free breakfast to all students; and
- Less than 50% of the students who are eligible for free and reduced-price school meals are participating in breakfast

Grant awards may be used for (but not limited to):

- 1) Equipment and Supplies
 - Portable coolers and carts to deliver meals to the classroom
 - Kiosks
 - Portable point-of-sale computer equipment
 - Additional refrigeration to store milk
 - Trash cans, recycling bins, and/or trash bags
 - 2) Limited Staff Support and Training for the implementation of the new breakfast model
 - 3) Marketing Materials (such as signage and posters)
 - 4) Incentives for Participation

Why Breakfast After the Bell?

Every day, too many children do not eat a healthy breakfast before school, which leaves them hungry all morning and unable to concentrate. Federally-funded school breakfast serves just over half of the low-income students who rely on school lunch, leaving too many children without the nutrition they need to start the school day alert and ready to learn. Making breakfast part of the school day — moving it out of the cafeteria and offering it for free to all students — significantly increases school breakfast participation and has multiple positive nutrition, health, behavioral, and education effects.

Eating School Breakfast:

- increases math and reading scores;
- improves speed and memory in cognitive tests;
- reduces school nurse visits
- reduces discipline issues
- supports student health;
- reduces student hunger;
- reduces the risk of students being overweight; and,
- provides students the opportunity to eat more fruits, drink more milk, and consume a wider variety of nutritious foods.

For further questions, please contact Kelsey Boone, <u>kboone@frac.org</u>.

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