



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Sponsors of School Child Nutrition Programs (including the Special Milk Program)

FROM: John D. Frassinelli, Division Director 
Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

DATE: August 26, 2020

SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum No. 11-20
Federal Meal Reimbursement Rates for School Year (SY) July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

This operational memorandum summarizes the annual adjustments to the federal reimbursement rates for local educational agencies (LEAs) for lunches, breakfasts, afterschool snacks, and milk served to children participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Afterschool Snack Program (ASP), and Special Milk Program (SMP). This memorandum also includes the NSLP reimbursement rate for USDA donated foods for SY 2020-21. As published in the Federal Register (FR) ([84 FR 38590](#) and [84 FR 39796](#)), the SY 2020-21 federal meal reimbursement rates are listed below.

National School Lunch Program (NSLP)		
Meal Category	Regular Rates	Severe Need Rates *
Paid	\$.33	\$.35
Reduced	\$3.11	\$3.13
Free	\$3.51	\$3.53
* For districts participating in the NSLP with 60 percent or more free and reduced participation during the second prior year.		

School Breakfast Program		
Meal Category	Regular Rates	Severe Need Rates *
Paid	\$.32	\$.32
Reduced	\$1.59	\$1.96
Free	\$1.89	\$2.26
* Severe need rates are available to schools where, in the second prior year, 40 percent or more of the students received lunches free or at a reduced price		

Special Milk Program
Rate: \$.2025 *
* Per half pint. Milk served free of charge to eligible students will be reimbursed at the average cost per half pint of milk.

Afterschool Snack Program	
Meal Category	Rate
Paid	\$.08
Reduced	\$.48
Free	\$.96

Effective SY 2020-21 NSLP Rate for USDA Foods
Rate: \$.3700
The published per meal rate from the Federal Register is .2450 cents. This is an increase of three-quarters of a cent per meal from last year. For the NSLP, the per meal rate (.2450 cents) plus the 12 percent provision dollars and the 20 million breakfast dollars make the effective NSLP rate .3700 cents for SY 2020-21.

In addition to the rates above, LEAs certified as meeting the meal pattern and nutrition standard requirements set forth in 7 CFR parts 210 and 220 are eligible to receive performance-based cash assistance for each reimbursable lunch served in the amount of **7 cents per lunch** effective July 1, 2020. This is an increase of 1 cent per lunch over prior years.

As a reminder, LEAs must set reduced-price charges for lunches, breakfasts, and afterschool snacks at or below the maximum reduced-price allowed by regulations. **These rates cannot exceed 40 cents per lunch, 30 cents per breakfast, and 15 cents for afterschool snacks.**

Questions may be directed to your CSDE school nutrition consultant.

CSDE Consultants for School Nutrition Programs	
County	Consultant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fairfield County (includes Region 9) Litchfield County (includes Regions 1, 6, 7, 12, and 14) 	Fionnuala Brown fionnuala.brown@ct.gov 860-807-2129
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hartford County (includes Region 10) Middlesex County (includes Regions 4, 13, and 17) 	Teri Dandeneau teri.dandeneau@ct.gov 860-807-2079
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Haven County New London County Tolland County (includes Regions 8 and 19) Windham County (includes Region 11) 	Susan Alston susan.alston@ct.gov 860-807-2081

JDF:tdd

Important: This is a numbered Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) operational memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain for future reference. All CSDE operational memoranda are posted on the CSDE's [Operational Memoranda for School Nutrition Programs](#) webpage.