




STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

**FROM:** John D. Frassinelli, Division Director   
School Health, Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

**DATE:** August 6, 2021 **REVISED January 12, 2022**

**SUBJECT:** Operational Memorandum No. 08-21  
Federal Meal Reimbursement Rates for School Year (SY) July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

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 students 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 2021-22. As published in the Federal Register (FR) ([86 FR 40803](#) and [86 FR 40803](#)), the SY 2021-22 federal meal reimbursement rates are listed below.

**Note:** LEAs opting in to and receiving CSDE approval for the two USDA nationwide waivers below to participate in the NSLP's Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for the school year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, will receive the reimbursement rates prescribed for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) ([85 FR 86901](#)) in lieu of the reimbursement rates established in this notice.

1. [COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #85](#): Nationwide Waiver to Allow the Seamless Summer Option through School Year 2021–2022
2. [COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response #86](#): Nationwide Waiver to Allow Summer Food Service Program Reimbursement Rates in School Year 2021–2022

The SFSP reimbursement rates made available to these LEAs were updated effective January 1, 2022. The current SFSP rate of reimbursement is **\$4.5625 per reimbursable lunch** and **\$2.6050 per reimbursable breakfast**. Note that the previous SFSP rate was \$4.3175 per reimbursable lunch and \$2.4625 per reimbursable breakfast.

<b>National School Lunch Program (NSLP)</b>		
<b>Meal Category</b>	<b>Regular Rates</b>	<b>Severe Need Rates *</b>
Paid	\$ .35	\$ .37
Reduced	\$3.26	\$3.28
Free	\$3.66	\$3.68
* For districts participating in the NSLP with 60 percent or more of the students received lunches free or at the reduced rate during the second prior year.		

<b>School Breakfast Program</b>		
<b>Meal Category</b>	<b>Regular Rates</b>	<b>Severe Need Rates *</b>
Paid	\$ .33	\$ .33
Reduced	\$1.67	\$2.05
Free	\$1.97	\$2.35
* 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.		

<b>Special Milk Program</b>
<b>Rate:</b> \$ .2200 *
* Per half pint. Milk served free of charge to eligible students will be reimbursed at the average cost per half pint of milk.

<b>Afterschool Snack Program</b>	
<b>Meal Category</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Paid	\$ .09
Reduced	\$ .50
Free	\$ 1.00

<b>Effective SY 2021-22 NSLP Rate for USDA Foods</b>
<b>Rate:</b> \$ .3975
The published per meal rate from the Federal Register is .2600 cents. For the NSLP, the per meal rate (.2600 cents) plus the 12 percent provision dollars and the 20 million breakfast dollars make the effective NSLP rate .3975 cents for SY 2021-22. This is an increase from the .3700 estimate 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, 2021.

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](#).

JDF:td

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.