



No student in Oregon should go hungry at school, no matter where they live or how much money their family makes.



Unfortunately, as many as 1 in 6 children in Oregon experience food insecurity. Oregon has the opportunity to ensure that **every student has access to nourishing meals at school**, regardless of their family's income.

The Solution: School Meals for All

This bill will:

1. **Create a statewide, permanent, fully funded School Meals for All program**, enabling students to focus on learning and social development without the stress of food insecurity.
2. **Ensure meals are provided at no cost to students.** Public schools will serve meals at no cost to every student, eliminating stigma and ensuring access.
3. **Maximize federal reimbursement.** Schools will optimize the use of federal funding by maximizing reimbursements available through federal meal programs, ensuring sustainability.
4. **Provide additional state funding.** Each federally reimbursable meal will receive state funding to meet the full USDA Federal Free Reimbursement rate, closing any gaps in funding.
5. **Ensure compliance with the highest nutrition standards.** Participating schools will follow the strongest available federal nutrition guidelines, promoting the health and well-being of Oregon's students.
6. **Equip schools for success.** Schools will receive the necessary equipment and resources to effectively implement the program, ensuring efficiency and quality in meal delivery.
7. **Eliminate meal debt.** Families in participating districts will no longer be burdened by existing school meal debts, removing another barrier to student success.

Why it matters:



Healthy, nourished students perform better academically, have improved attendance, and experience better social-emotional development.



Equity and access: This program eliminates the stigma associated with free and reduced-price lunches, treating all students equally and ensuring that no child misses a meal during the school day.



Long-term impact: Investing in student nutrition today builds a healthier, stronger Oregon for the future.

OUR STEERING COMMITTEE:



American Heart Association



Feeding Bodies. Fueling Minds.™

OUR COALITION:



COALITION OF OREGON SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS



PORTLAND BACKPACK



School Meals for All is a coalition of students, school and community leaders, teachers and cafeteria workers, parents, food producers, and other advocates working to secure a values-aligned, universal school meal program for Oregon.

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 **School Meals for All**
schoolmealsoregon.org