

FLORIDA CHILD NUTRITION POLICIES AND PROGRAMS



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) establishes the minimum national standards that schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and other federal meal programs must meet in order to obtain reimbursement. However, states can provide additional requirements and standards for school nutrition programs. Below is a snapshot of the policies for Florida. Also included are resources on the State legislature to assist SNA members interested in making an impact as the State crafts future policies. More information on Florida can be found with the [State agency](#) or by viewing the latest data available from [USDA](#).

Current and Recent Legislation

- In 2013, the Florida Governor signed into law a bill providing an exemption for information on free and reduced students to remain out of the public domain. A bill preventing students from leaving campuses during lunch periods died in committee.
- In 2014, the Governor signed into law a bill banning schools from collecting student biometrics.
- There was no legislation in 2015.

School Meal Policies

- Florida requires schools provide lunch, but does not have to be NSLP. If an elementary school provides NSLP, it must offer SBP.
- The state does not provide additional per meal reimbursement.

Competitive Foods/Smart Snacks Fundraisers

- Florida provides the following fundraising exemptions for outside the Smart Snacks requirements: 5 days for elementary schools, 10 days for middle schools, and 15 days for high schools.

Farm to School

- A 2011 rule establishes the Florida Farm Fresh Schools Program to develop policies to promote school use of local and organic produce.

The Florida Legislature

- The state legislature meets beginning in March for a period not to exceed 60 calendar days. Special sessions are called as needed.
- The rules for lobbying in Florida can be found [here](#).