

LOUISIANA 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 Louisiana. 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 Louisiana can be found with the [State agency](#) or by viewing the latest data available from [USDA](#).

Current and Recent Legislation

- 2014 saw resolutions on seat time, farm to school programs, “tastier” meals, and bill changing the threshold for small procurement amounts.
- In 2015, the Governor signed a bill easing purchase of local produce. Bills on extending seat time, stabling a Farm to School Program, and resolution on addressing childhood hunger during the summer were also introduced.

School Meal Policies

- Louisiana mandates schools offer NSLP and SBP if a school has 25% free and reduced.
- The State does not provide additional per meal reimbursement.
- A 2003 law requires that schools provide a minimum of 30 minutes for school lunch.

Competitive Foods/Smart Snacks Fundraisers

- All food based fundraisers in Louisiana must be Smart Snacks compliant.

Farm to School

- The state has no policy on farm to school, but an active network of organizations.

The Louisiana Legislature

- In even-numbered years, the legislature convenes at noon on the last Monday in March to extend for no longer than 60 legislative days during a period of 85 days. In odd-numbered years, a limited jurisdiction session convenes at noon on the last Monday in April for no longer than 45 legislative days during a period of 60 days.
- The rules for lobbying in Louisiana can be found [here](#).