

NEW MEXICO 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 New Mexico. 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 New Mexico can be found with the [State agency](#) or by viewing the latest data available from [USDA](#).

Current and Recent Legislation

- In 2014, the Governor signed a bill expanding breakfast in the classroom and providing appropriations.
- In 2013, 2014, and now 2015 a bill to increase funding for local produce in schools has been introduced.

School Meal Policies

- New Mexico does not mandate participation in a lunch program, but requires breakfast in schools with 80% free or reduced.
- The state does not provide additional financial support for lunch, but covers the cost of reduced price breakfast (\$.30) and \$1.58 for each paid breakfast served.
- Schools may – not required – provide nutrition education as a part of health education.
- New Mexico provides annual training for food service workers.
- Students must be provided 30 minutes to eat lunch.

Competitive Foods/Smart Snacks Fundraisers

- New Mexico allows one non Smart Snacks compliant fundraiser per school per year.

Farm to School

- A 2008 bill requires that schools put a high priority on ordering local produce.

The New Mexico Legislature

- The legislature meets in regular session on the second Tuesday in January of each odd-numbered year. The New Mexico Constitution limits the regular session to 60 calendar days, every other year it is 30 days.
- The rules for lobbying in New Mexico can be found [here](#).

*For more information on state and national policies, contact SNA's Government Affairs and Media Relations Center.
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