

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

Current and Recent Legislation

- In 2013, a bill was proposed to expand summer feeding sites.
- A bill to increase allowable food fundraisers was introduced in 2015.

School Meal Policies

- Ohio does not mandate participation in NSLP, but does require breakfast be served in schools with a 20% free/reduced student population.
- The state does not provide additional per meal reimbursement.
- Ohio has a general policy on providing basic nutrition education, but no specifics on course work or at what grade level.
- A 2010 bill established standards for beverage sales in schools and schools must use a free software program to establish the nutrition standards of foods sold in schools.

Competitive Foods/Smart Snacks Fundraisers

- As of March 2015, all food based fundraisers in Ohio must be Smart Snacks compliant. However, a bill has been introduced that could allow for some exempt events.

Farm to School

- While there is no official policy, Ohio has an established network of programs promoting Farm to School.

The Ohio General Assembly

- The General Assembly meets for a year round session.
- The rules for lobbying in Ohio 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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