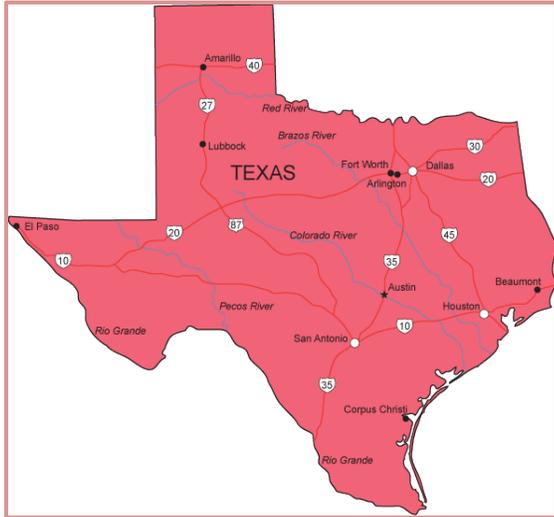


## TEXAS CHILD NUTRITION POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

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

### Current and Recent Legislation

- In 2013, the state established a mandatory Breakfast After the Bell Program.
- In 2015, the Texas legislature took up bills to establish a strong farm to school network and establish a school nutrition awards program.
- Also in 2015, a bill allowing local funds to support free breakfast programs became law.

### School Meal Policies

- Texas does not mandate participation in NSLP, but requires universal breakfast in schools with 80% free and reduced.
- The State does not provide additional per meal reimbursement.
- The Texas State School Nutrition Policy was established in 2010, but many sections were ended in 2014.
- The above policy requires a minimum of 10 minutes to consume breakfast and 20 for lunch.

### Competitive Foods/Smart Snacks Fundraisers

- In 2015, the Texas Secretary of Agriculture changed the rules to allow for six events per year.

### Farm to School

- A 2009 bill established the interagency farm-to-school coordination task force and requires it to develop and implement a plan to facilitate the availability of locally grown food products in public schools.

### The Texas Legislature

- Meets for during odd years for 140 days.
- The rules for lobbying in Texas can be found [here](#).

*For more information on state and national policies, contact SNA's Government Affairs and Media Relations Center.  
As of 8/19/2015*