

VIRGINIA 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 Virginia. 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 Virginia can be found with the [State agency](#) or by viewing the latest data

available from [USDA](#).

Current and Recent Legislation

- In 2013, the Virginia Senate passed a resolution to address childhood hunger.
- In 2015, a bill to allow for Smart Snacks exempt fundraisers passed.
- The 2015 state budget also included funding for breakfast programs.

School Meal Policies

- Virginia does not mandate participation in a lunch program, but requires SBP if a school is 25% free/reduced.
- The State does not provide additional per meal reimbursement at lunch, but does provide \$.22 for breakfast in certain cases, and recently passed additional funds to support Breakfast After the Bell programs.
- A 2008 bill requires all students to know why nutrition is important as part of health curriculum.

Competitive Foods/Smart Snacks Fundraisers

- In 2014, all food based fundraisers in Virginia must be Smart Snacks compliant, but this will alter next year.

Farm to School

- A 2007 law requires the Virginia Department of Education law to maintain a Farm to School website.

The Virginia General Assembly

- The General Assembly meets for 60 days in even-numbered years, 45 days in odd-numbered.
- The rules for lobbying in Virginia 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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