How States Boost School Breakfast Participation

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How Are States Taking Action?

- **Kansas, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, and West Virginia** universally require breakfast unless a waiver is obtained.
- In **Ohio**, schools must operate a breakfast program if >50 percent of parents request one.
- **Oregon** requires schools that qualify for Title I funding to operate breakfast programs.
- **Colorado, New Mexico** and the **District of Columbia** require breakfast to be served after the start of the school day in high poverty schools.

Do States Offer Financial Incentives for School Breakfast? Yes.

- **Competitive Grants.** **Connecticut** and **Illinois** offer schools competitive grants to establish or expand in-classroom school breakfast programs.
- **Reimbursement.** The **District of Columbia** provides an additional $.10 reimbursement (on top of the federal reimbursement) for each breakfast served that meets a set of nutrition standards. In **Pennsylvania**, schools participating in the School Breakfast Program receive a higher state reimbursement for lunches when at least 20 percent of their students are served breakfast.
- **Eliminating Reduced-Price Breakfast.** **Colorado, Maine, Minnesota, and North Carolina** provide school breakfast at no cost to students at all grade levels who qualify for reduced-priced meals.

Typically, these states require schools to operate breakfast programs if 20 to 30 percent of students qualify for free- and reduced-price meals.

Rising to the Breakfast Challenge...

**Michigan’s First Fuel School Breakfast Challenge** encourages schools to increase the number of students who eat school breakfast by matching the number of students that consume school lunch.

**Kentucky’s School Breakfast Challenge**, a partnership of the Kentucky Board of Education, Commissioner of Education Terry Holliday, the Southeast United Dairy Industry Association, and Action for Healthy Kids assists schools in creating new and innovative ways to implement the School Breakfast Program.

In **North Carolina**, the State Board of Education’s “Resolution to Promote School Breakfast” clarifies that breakfast counts as Instructional time. This has lead to more schools serving breakfast after the bell.