

Implementation Date & Program Affected		The Final Rule – Effective July 1, 2025
<b>2024-2025 SBP, NSLP, SMP, Smart Snacks in Schools, CACFP</b>	Flavored Milk	Continues to allow all flavored and unflavored, fat-free and flavored and unflavored low fat (1%) milk for all grades, K-12. <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Resource Link</a>
<b>2024-2025 SBP, NSLP</b>	Whole Grains	Maintains whole grain requirements - at least 80% of the weekly grains offered at breakfast and lunch are whole grain rich. Adds definition of whole grain rich to the regulations. Updates definition of entrée item to clarify that WG rich and enriched grain entrees may be sold a la carte as a Smart Snack. <a href="#">Resource Link P. 31</a> <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Smart Snacks Calculator</a>
<b>2024-2025 SBP, NSLP</b>	Sodium	Lunch-Maintains current sodium target (1A) through June 30, 2027. Breakfast-Maintains current sodium limit (Target 1) through June 30, 2027. <a href="#">Resource Link</a>
<b>2024-2025 SBP</b>	Meat/Meat Alternate at Breakfast	Combined meat and grains meal component in the SBP and removes 1 oz eq grain requirement each day at breakfast. Allows schools the option to offer grains, meat/meat alternates or a combination of both at breakfast. <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Breakfast Meal Pattern Training Guide</a>
<b>2024-2025 NSLP</b>	Beans, Peas, and Lentils* at Lunch	*Changes “Legumes” to “Beans, Peas, and Lentils” <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Resource Link P. 53</a> <a href="#">Resource Link</a> Allows beans, peas and lentils offered toward the M/MA meal component to also count toward the weekly beans, peas, and lentils vegetable subgroup requirement. An additional beans, peas, and lentils vegetable serving will need to be provided during the school week if this provision is used to fully implement OVS.
<b>2024-2025 SBP, NSLP, SFSP, CACFP</b>	Nuts and Seeds	Allows nuts and seeds to count for the full meat/meat alternate component at breakfast, lunch and supper. <a href="#">Resource Link</a>
<b>2024-2025 NSLP Smart Snacks</b>	Competitive Foods: Bean Dip Exemption	Adds “bean dip” to the list of exempt foods from the <b>total fat</b> standard in the Smart Snacks in School regulations. <a href="#">Resource Link P. 54</a> <a href="#">Guide to Smart Snacks P. 10</a>
<b>2024-2025 SBP, NSLP</b>	Professional Standards: Hiring Exception	NC will maintain the current professional hiring standard that requires hiring a school nutrition program director in a medium LEA that has a bachelor’s or associate degree, and a director in large LEAs that has a bachelor's degree, in addition to other requirements. <a href="#">PS Flyer</a> <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Resource Link P.53</a>
<b>2024-2025 SBP, NSLP</b>	Fluid Milk Substitutes Nutrient Requirements	Changes the unit of measure for Vitamin A and Vitamin D from IU to mcg for fluid milk substitutes. The amount of each vitamin does not change, only the unit of measure. <a href="#">Resource Link P.77</a> <a href="#">Resource Link</a>

<b>2024-2025 NSLP, SMP, SBP, SFSP, CACFP</b>	Geographic Preference	Allows “locally grown”, “locally raised”, and “locally caught” to be used as a procurement specification. <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Webinar Link</a>
<b>2024-2025 SBP, NSLP, SFSP</b>	Traditional Indigenous Foods	Traditional Indigenous Foods can be served as part of the reimbursable meal <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Resource Link</a>
<b>2024-2025 SBP, NSLP</b>	Clarification of Potable Water Requirements	Clarifies the existing water requirement to include in regulation that schools must make “plain” potable water available during meal service. Water must be served during the lunch meal anywhere that lunches are served. Water must be provided at breakfast when breakfast is served in the cafeteria. Field trips are exempt. <a href="#">Resource Link P. 78</a>
<b>2024-2025 SBP, NSLP, Smart Snacks</b>	Synthetic Trans Fats	Removes the synthetic trans-fat specification requirement. <a href="#">Resource Link P.78</a>
<b>2024-2025 SBP</b>  <b>2025-2026 SBP</b>	Substituting Vegetables for Fruit at breakfast *No sub-group requirements for 24-25 SY	Allows schools to substitute vegetables for fruit and updates the vegetable variety requirement. <a href="#">Resource Link</a> Vegetable(s) may be substituted <b>once (1) per week</b> with no vegetable variety requirement. Vegetable(s) may be substituted <b>two (2) or more times per week if two (2) subgroups</b> are offered over the week. <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Q&amp;A Vegetable Subgroup Chart</a>
<b>2025-2026 SBP, NSLP</b>	Buy American	Finalizes the Buy American proposal but adopts a phased-in approach to implementation of the non-domestic food purchases limit. Requires documentation and reporting. Limits non-domestic food purchases to 10% <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Webinar Link</a>
<b>2025-2026 SBP, NSLP, CACFP</b>	Added Sugars	Finalizes the product-based limits for breakfast cereals, yogurt and flavored milk. Breakfast cereals: no more than 6g added sugar per dry ounce. Yogurt: no more than 12g added sugar per 6 oz portion. Flavored milk: no more than 10g per 8 fl oz. A la carte milk: no more than 15g per 12 fl oz. (12 fl oz milk can be served at middle and high school only) <a href="#">Resource Link</a>
<b>2025-2026 NSLP Snacks</b>	Afterschool Snacks	Aligns NSLP afterschool snack standards with the CACFP snack standards (separates F and V into separate components): M/MA 1 oz eq, B/G 1 oz eq, Fruit ¾ cup, Vegetable ¾ cup, Milk 1 cup. May not offer milk and juice at the same snack. Weekly juice limited to <b>no more than ½ of vegetable or fruit offerings</b> . At least 80% of the grains offered must be whole grain rich. No deep-fried on-site foods are allowed. <a href="#">No Grain-Based Desserts</a> . Cereal, Yogurt and Milk follow the same requirements as Added Sugar regulation dictates. <a href="#">Resource Link P.47</a> <a href="#">Chart P 49</a>

<b>2025-2026</b> <b>SBP, NSLP,</b> <b>CACFP</b>	Meal Modifications	Expands the authority for registered dietitians to write medical statements. <a href="#">Resource Link P.56</a>
<b>2027-2028</b> <b>SBP, NSLP</b>	Added Sugar	Finalizes the proposed weekly limit for added sugars to less than 10% of calories. <a href="#">Resource Link</a>
<b>2027-2028</b> <b>SBP, NSLP</b>	Sodium	Lunch- finalizes one 15% sodium reduction from 2024-2025 levels (Target 1A). Breakfast-Finalizes one 10% sodium reduction from 2024-2025 levels (Target 1). <a href="#">Resource Link</a>
<b>2028-2029</b> <b>SBP, NSLP</b>	Buy American	Limits non-domestic food purchases to 8%. <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Webinar Link</a>
<b>2031-2032</b> <b>SBP, NSLP</b>	Buy American	Limits non-domestic food purchases to 5% <a href="#">Resource Link</a> <a href="#">Webinar Link</a>
<b>2024-2025</b> <b>2025-2026</b>	<b>CACFP</b>	<a href="#">Implementation Checklist and Timeline</a> <a href="#">CACFP Meal Pattern Grain Chart – Exhibit A</a>

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rev. July 2025