School Nutrition Programs

Purpose

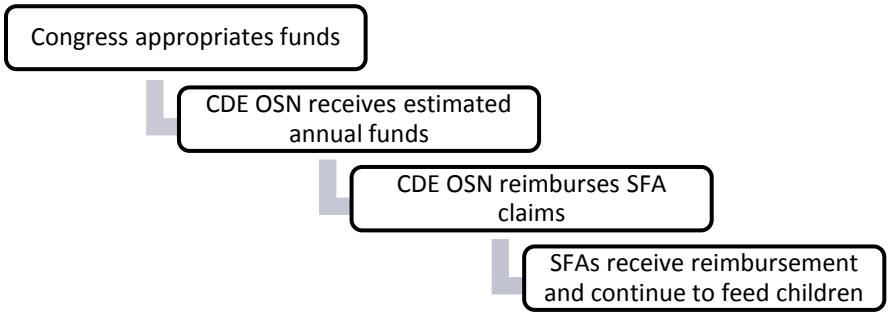
The Colorado Department of Education's Office of School Nutrition administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture Child Nutrition Programs in local school districts and charter schools to promote the health and well-being of children.

- School meals are planned for students ages four through 18 years. The National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program can provide more than 50 percent of nutrient intake on school days.
- All of the child nutrition programs assist children in families with limited resources and food insecurity. The programs provide a safety net to meet nutritional needs. Households with incomes less than 185 percent of poverty level receive meals and snacks for free or reduced price.
- Summer Food Service, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable, Afterschool Care Snack and Special Milk programs provide meals and snacks to children at times when the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Programs are not operating.

Responsibilities

- Reimburses school food authorities for meals and snacks
- Monitors school food authorities to ensure compliance with state guidelines and regulations
- Provides in-person and online trainings
- Teaches classes and workshops at conferences
- Offers specific technical assistance

Funding for School Nutrition Programs



Programs

- National School Lunch Program
- School Breakfast Program
- Summer Food Service Program
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
- Afterschool Care Snack Program
- Special Milk Program

Number of meals served during the 2012-2013 school year:

- Breakfast: 24,823,540
- Lunch: 61,638,782
- Summer meals: 1,341,878

Students in grades preK-12 eligible for free and reduced price meals in the 2013-2014 school year:

- PreK-12: 876,999
- Free: 304,962
- Reduced Price: 62,822
- Paid: 509,215

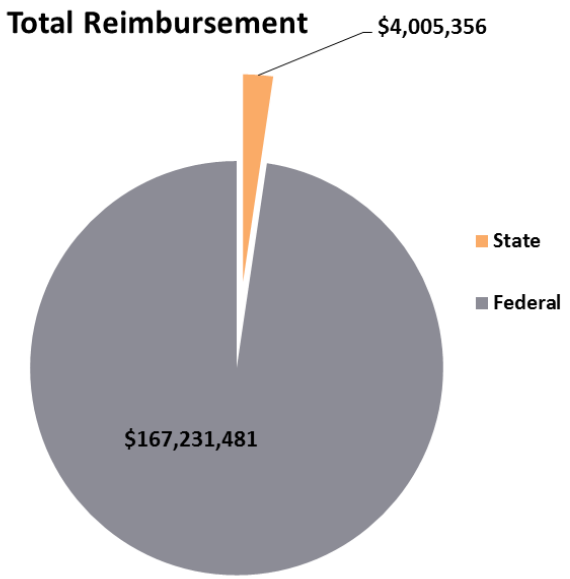
Impact of the Breakfast After the Bell Nutrition Program in 2014-2015 school year:

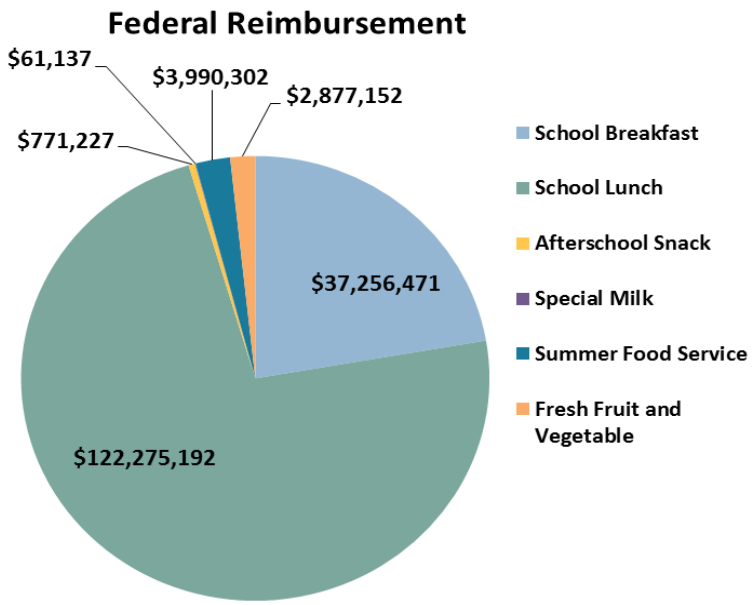
- School Food Authorities: 26
  Schools: 245

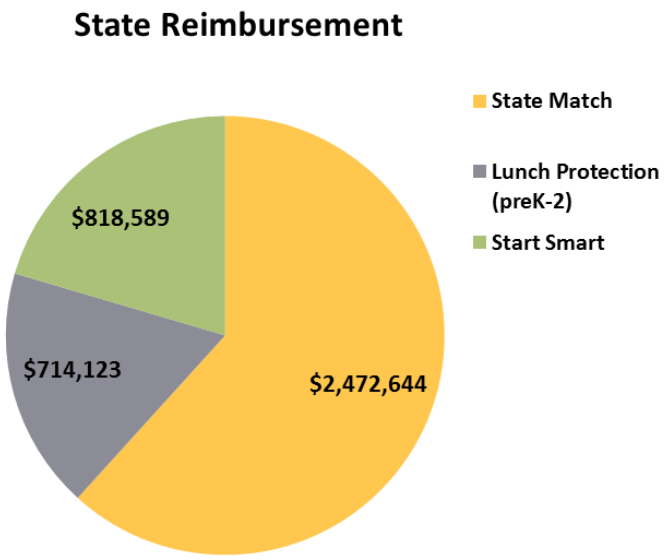
Reimbursement

Reimbursement received by school districts for meals served to students in school year 2012-2013

CO School Meal Program Reimbursement		
State Match	State	$ 2,472,644
Lunch Protection (preK-2)	State	$ 714,123
Start Smart	State	$ 818,589
Total	State	$ 4,005,356
School Breakfast	Federal	$ 37,256,471
School Lunch	Federal	$ 122,275,192
Afterschool Snack	Federal	$ 771,227
Special Milk	Federal	$ 61,137
Summer Food Service	Federal	$ 3,990,302
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable	Federal	$ 2,877,152
Total	Federal	$ 167,231,481
		$ 171,236,837







Note: charts do not include Office of School Nutrition administrative funds

Where can I learn more?

To learn more about the CDE Office of School Nutrition and School Nutrition Programs, visit

www.cde.state.co.us/nutrition

The Colorado Department of Education

1580 Logan Street, Suite 780, Denver, CO 80203 • 303-866-6661 • nutrition@cde.state.co.us

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