



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Food and  
Nutrition  
Service

3101 Park  
Center Drive  
Alexandria, VA  
22302-1500

**DATE:** April 1, 2013

**SUBJECT:** FY 2013 School Breakfast Program Expansion Grants

**TO:** Regional Directors  
Special Nutrition Programs  
All Regions

State Directors  
Alaska, California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey,  
North Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, and Washington

The Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (the Act), Section 23 (42 U.S.C. 1793), as amended by Section 105 of the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-296), authorizes appropriations to provide grants on a competitive basis to State agencies to expand the School Breakfast Program (SBP). Congress appropriated \$1 million for this purpose.

The purpose of the SBP expansion grants is to provide subgrants, not to exceed \$10,000, to local educational agencies (LEA) for qualifying schools to establish, maintain, or expand the SBP. In order to qualify a school must be deemed to be in “severe need” which means the school must serve at least 40 percent of lunches at a free or reduced price through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). In addition, in awarding the subgrants a State agency must give priority to LEAs with qualifying schools in which at least 75 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced price school lunches.

Due to the limited funds available, the Food Nutrition Service (FNS) determined that targeting a smaller number of States with the greatest potential to maximize SBP participation in qualifying schools and reach areas of high need will make best use of the grant funding. Therefore, FNS developed a set of criteria to identify ten States eligible to apply for consideration to receive the grants. FNS utilized school meal program data and official poverty measures to develop State criteria that assess school meal program participation, including trends in free and reduced price participation. The following data was evaluated and each State was ranked in relation to other States for each of the following four factors:

1. SBP participation compared to participation in NSLP;
2. Percentage of severe need schools in the State;
3. SBP growth in free/reduced price participation in relation to Free/reduced price NSLP participation; and
4. State-level unemployment rate.

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Based on these criteria, FNS identified the following States as eligible to apply for SBP expansion grants: **Alaska, California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, and Washington.**

Eligible State agencies interested in obtaining funding should review the attached Request for Application (RFA) and complete the required forms, as explained in the RFA.

Applications must be received via [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on May 17, 2013. Applications received after this date and time will not be considered. We strongly recommend that State agencies submit the online application one week before the application deadline in case there are problems with the website. All questions regarding the RFA and electronic submissions should be referred to FNS Grant Officer Dawn Addison via email at [Dawn.Addison@fns.usda.gov](mailto:Dawn.Addison@fns.usda.gov). If you require immediate technical assistance as it pertains to grants.gov; please contact the Grants.gov helpline at 1-800-518-4726 or email the help desk at [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov).

We look forward to receiving your application for FY2013 SBP expansion grant funding.

**Original Signed**  
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Melissa A. Rothstein  
Acting Director  
Child Nutrition Division

**Original Signed**  
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Lael J. Lubing  
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