

Michigan School Meals Testimony

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School Year 2023-2024 Eligibility

- Meals served in intermediate school districts (ISDs) and local education agencies (LEAs), both traditional public school districts and public school academies (PSAs)
- Meals served to students in:
 - Kindergarten to Grade 12
 - Pre-Kindergarten state funded Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) or tuition-based 4-year-old preschool classrooms run by districts
 - Special education programs up to age 26



What is not eligible in School Year 2023-2024?

- Meals served in nonpublic schools
- Meals served in GSRP or other preschool programs that are part of a Community Based Organization (CBO)
- Meals served to teachers and staff
- Second meals or a la carte items



Program Requirements

- Must participate in both National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program
- Must adopt Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) to maximize federal reimbursement
- Must collect relevant family income information via Education Benefit Forms
- Must write off all outstanding student meal negative balances
- Program participation is optional for sponsors



Increases to Date

	School Year 2022-2023 (Before Michigan School Meals)	School Year 2023-2024 (with Michigan School Meals)	Difference
Buildings Serving Free Meals	1,649	3,304	+100.4%
Children with Access to Free Meals	589,381 (CEP only)	Over 1,300,000 (CEP + MSM)	+120.6%



Increases to Date

	School Year 2022-2023 (Before Michigan School Meals)	School Year 2023-2024 (with Michigan School Meals)	Difference
Breakfasts Served July-November	22,273,189	28,401,672	+27.51%
Breakfast Average Daily Participation (October)	375,956	474,432	+26.2%
Lunches Served July-November	41,685,716	50,883,676	+22.1%
Lunch Average Daily Participation (October)	709,593	853,640	+20.3%



Increases to Date

	School Year 2022-2023 (Before Michigan School Meals)	School Year 2023-2024 (with Michigan School Meals)	Difference
USDA Foods Dollars	\$41,189,301	\$63,435,825 (estimated)	+54%
Federal Dollars	\$197,465,723	\$298,267,429	+51%
State Dollars	\$0	\$110,522,611	



Points of Pride

- Middle/High Schools seeing the greatest breakfast increases (reduced stigma)
- Michigan families saving approximately \$850/year



Points of Concern

- Time to eat
- Staffing
- Quality of meals
- Long-term funding stability
- Funding for programs tied to free/reduced percentage



Thank you!

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What We Are Watching

- Short term:
 - Participation rates
 - Reimbursement
- Intermediate term:
 - Attendance rates
 - Standardized test scores
- Long term:
 - Graduation rates

