

UNIVERSAL MEALS

STEP 1: APPLY FOR FEDERAL MEALS PROGRAM

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

By June 30, 2022:

- If LEA has a high poverty school, it must apply to participate in the federal school lunch program and adopt a universal meal service provision like the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision 2.
 - High poverty = 40% of students are directly certified (through participation in Medi-Cal, SNAP, TANF), or identified as homeless, migrant, foster, or runaway.
- There used to be a waiver allowing LEAs to opt out of this requirement. Legislation eliminates this waiver as of 7/1/2022.
- Resource: http://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/sites/default/files/providing-universal-free-school-meals_0.pdf



STEP 2: PROVIDE 2 FREE MEALS

2022/23 SCHOOL YEAR

For the 2022/23 school year, schools must:

- Provide two meals free of charge during each school day to TK-12 students requesting a meal, regardless of FRPM eligibility.
- If the LEA participates in the reimbursable school breakfast program, provide a free breakfast to any pupil who requests one regardless of FRMP eligibility
 - Shall not charge any amount
 - Counts toward to the two meals mentioned above
- To receive reimbursement, meals must comply with federal nutrition requirements



STEP 3: REIMBURSEMENT

2022/23 SCHOOL YEAR

Starting in the 2022/23 school year:

- Schools will receive reimbursement for all free meals provided to students, regardless of FRPM eligibility
 - Caveat: the state will not reimburse for costs that could have been reimbursed by a federal meal program.
 - Caveat: the state will not reimburse for costs above the federal + state reimbursement rate
- ***Intent: the state's commitment to universal meals is intended to "supplement, not supplant" the federal meals programs. In other words, if the LEA could have received reimbursement from a federal program for a meal served and did not, the state will not cover that cost.***
- To receive reimbursement, meals must comply with federal nutrition requirements
- ***Caveat: conditioned upon appropriation***
 - State appropriation in 2022/23 budget
 - Congressional action to implement universal school meals



EXAMPLES

	EXAMPLE 1	EXAMPLE 2	EXAMPLE 3
LEA participates in National School Lunch Program (NSLP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEA provides a free meal to Akash, a student who is not FRPM eligible. The LEA receives funding from the state, up to the combined state and federal reimbursement amount E.g. Actual meal cost = \$3.86. Federal reimbursement = \$0.35. State would pay LEA \$3.51. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEA provides a free meal to Chiara, a student who is eligible for reduced-price meals. The LEA receives funding from the state to cover the difference between the NSLP reduced-price rate that versus the actual cost, up to the combined state and federal reimbursement amount. E.g. Actual meal cost = \$3.86. Federal reimbursement = \$3.26. State would pay LEA \$.60. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEA provides a free meal to Nathan, a student who is eligible for free meals. LEA receives funding from the state to cover the difference between the NSPL free rate and the actual cost E.g. Actual meal cost = \$3.86. Federal reimbursement = \$3.66. State would pay LEA \$.20.
Total Reimbursed	\$3.86	\$3.86	\$3.86



EXAMPLES

	EXAMPLE 4	EXAMPLE 5	EXAMPLE 6
LEA DOES NOT participate in National School Lunch Program (NSLP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEA provides a free meal to Akash, a student who is not FRPM eligible. The LEA receives funding from the state minus the amount it would have received from NSLP. E.g. Actual meal cost = \$3.86. Subtract federal reimbursement = \$0.35. State would pay LEA \$3.51. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEA provides a free meal to Chiara, a student who is eligible for reduced-price meals. The LEA receives funding from the state minus the amount it would have received from NSLP. E.g. Actual meal cost = \$3.86. Subtract federal reimbursement = \$3.26. State would pay LEA \$.60. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEA provides a free meal to Nathan, a student who is eligible for free meals. LEA receives funding from the state minus the amount it would have received from NSLP. E.g. Actual meal cost = \$3.86. Subtract federal reimbursement = \$3.66. State would pay LEA \$.20.
Total Reimbursed	\$3.51	\$0.60	\$0.20



EXPANDED TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN (TK)

AB 130, SECTION 60

- Expansion starts in 2022/23. Full implementation by 2025/26.
- 2021/22 intended to be a “planning year.”
- By 2022/23, all TK classrooms must have a 1:12 ratio. By 2023/24 must have a 1:10 ratio. Max class size of 24 pupils.
- Further delays requirement of 24 ECE units until August 2023 (alternatives: child development permit or comparable professional experience).
- Includes parent choice language ensuring that parents with TK eligible children can instead choose another ELC program, including preschool or Head Start.
- Includes “wrap” language stating that the Superintendent “shall authorize” a preschool program to offer wraparound childcare to children enrolled in TK, K, or grades 1 to 12 if the family is income eligible.



TK ROLLOUT

TK EXPANSION

YEAR	ELIGIBILITY
2021/22	Turns 5 between Sept 2- Dec 2 (no change)
2022/23	Turns 5 between Sept 2- Feb 2
2023/24	Turns 5 between Sept 2- April 2
2024/25	Turns 5 between Sept 2- June 2
2025/26	Turns 4 by Sept 1



EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS BLOCK GRANT

- \$1.5 billion non-competitive
- For all LEAs (districts, COEs, charters)
- Allocations based on # of certificated and classified FTEs in 2021/22
- Expend by 2025/26
- Coordinate with ESSA Title II funds



EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS BLOCK GRANT

- Uses: professional learning for teachers, administrators, paras and classified staff who work with pupils
- Focus areas:
 - coaching and mentoring
 - standards aligned instruction in literacy
 - accelerated learning to re-engage pupils
 - SEL, trauma-informed practices, suicide prevention, access to MH
 - school climate, restorative justice, implicit bias, PBIS, MTSS, preventing harassment and bullying
 - inclusive practices, UDL, early identification



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 - inclusive practices, UDL, early identification language acquisition
 - New PLNs
 - ethnic studies
 - instruction, education, and strategies in early learning and childhood development



EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS BLOCK GRANT

- Develop and adopt a plan for spending the funds by 12/30/21 and present at a public meeting of the governing board
- Report detailed expenditure information to CDE by 9/30/2026, including purchases and the number of teachers, admin, and paras or classified staff that received PD. (The department will determine format)
- Considerations:
 - alignment with PreK Implementation Plan
 - alignment with A-G Success Grant, Access Grant, and Learning Loss Mitigation Grant
 - alignment with various MH (mental health) and wellness grants, eg community schools, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative
 - alignment with Special Ed Learning Recovery Grant



COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- Provides \$2.8B for a second round of funding (grant was created in 20/21 budget)
 - Governor’s proposal estimates that this would fund more than half of all schools in CA
- Competitive grant process
- Funds
 - 10% available for 2 year planning grants (up to \$200,000 each)
 - 70% for implementation grants (up to \$500,000 each annually for up to 5 years)
 - 20% for coordination grants (up to \$100,000 annually) from 2024/25 to 2027/28
- Funds available for encumbrance until 6/30/2028
- RFA will be updated by 11/15/2021 (and presumably go out then)
- Grant decisions made by the SPI subject to approval by the SBE



COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- Eligibility
 - An LEA that meets at least one of the following: 50%+ unduplicated; higher than average dropout rate; higher than average suspension/expulsion rate; higher than average rates of homelessness, foster, or justice involved youth; or can demonstrate an exceptional need or service to a particular population
 - Consortiums are allowed, including those lead by COEs
 - Behavioral health agencies, Head Start grantees, and ELC contractors can apply in partnership with an LEA
 - Prioritizes creation of new community schools and applicants with high FRPM rates
- Prioritization: applicants with 80%+ unduplicated pupils, plans that are sustainable, plans that include early learning and childcare, collaborations with other agencies, plans that demonstrate need, plans to provide health and mental health at the school site, new community schools



EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

- Starts in 2021/22
- Ongoing (presumably)
- Noncompetitive, for all LEAs serving grades TK to 6 with unduplicated pupils (except non-classroom based charter schools)
- Generally aligns with ASES requirements/standards (ie credentialed teacher not required, can contract out)
- Requires that all LEAs receiving the grant provide:
 - 175 school days, 9 hours of combined instructional time and expanded learning (“opportunities to engage pupils in enrichment, play, nutrition, and other developmentally appropriate activities”).
 - Plus 30 additional non-school days of expanded learning

2021-2022	Must serve 50% of unduplicated pupils (by end of year)
2022-2023	Must serve 100% of unduplicated pupils



A – G COMPLETION IMPROVEMENT GRANT

- \$548 million total, 3 separate grants
- Available for encumbrance until the 2025/26 fiscal year
- LEAs must develop a plan on or before January 1, 2022 describing how the funds will increase or improve services for unduplicated pupils to improve A – G eligibility
- **A – G Access Grant = \$300 million**
 - Purpose: Activities that directly support students access to, and completion of, A – G course requirements.
 - Examples: PD for teachers and staff on improving A – G completion rates, pupil supports such as tutoring, expanded access to A – G coursework including collaboration with IHE, AP and IB classes.
 - Funding: allocated to LEAs with A- G completion rates **less than 67%**. Amount based on the # of students in grades 9 to 12
 - For LEAs with 55% or more unduplicated pupils, there is a minimum grant amount of \$75,000



A – G COMPLETION IMPROVEMENT GRANT

- **A – G Success Grant = \$100 million**
 - Purpose: same as A – G Access Grant, but also: focus on pupils in danger of not achieving a C or better in A – G classes.
 - Funding: \$100 million allocated to LEAs with A- G completion rates **higher than 67%**.
Amount based on the # of students in grades 9 to 12
 - For LEAs with 55% or more unduplicated pupils, there is a minimum grant amount of \$75,000
- **A – G Learning Loss Mitigation Grant = \$148 million**
 - Purpose: For pupils who received a failing grade (D, F, or fail) in an A – G course in 2020/21 school year or the spring of 2020. May also be used for credit recovery to help pupils graduate on time.
 - Funding: \$148 million to all LEAs based on the number of unduplicated pupils in grades 9 to 12
 - For LEAs with 55% or more unduplicated pupils, there is a minimum grant amount of \$75,000

