

Healthy School Meals for All

Children and teens cannot learn on an empty stomach. There are many students that need a nutritious breakfast and lunch at school who do not qualify for free or reduced-price school meals.

Healthy School Meals for All means offering a free breakfast and lunch to all students at school, regardless of their household income, so they can learn and thrive. Serving school meals to all students at no cost on a permanent basis would be a game changer for students, families, and schools.



Benefits of Providing Free Meals to All Students:



ENSURES ALL STUDENTS ARE HUNGER-FREE AND READY TO LEARN



REDUCES STIGMA ASSOCIATED WITH EATING SCHOOL MEALS



ENDS THE PROBLEM OF UNPAID SCHOOL MEAL DEBT



EASES ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS FOR SCHOOLS



SUPPORTS SCHOOL NUTRITION FINANCES AND OPERATIONS



School meals are just as important to students' **academic success** as textbooks.



During the pandemic (March 2020–June 2022), schools had the option to serve **free meals to all students**, and this effectively served as a trial run of a **nationwide free school meals for all policy**.



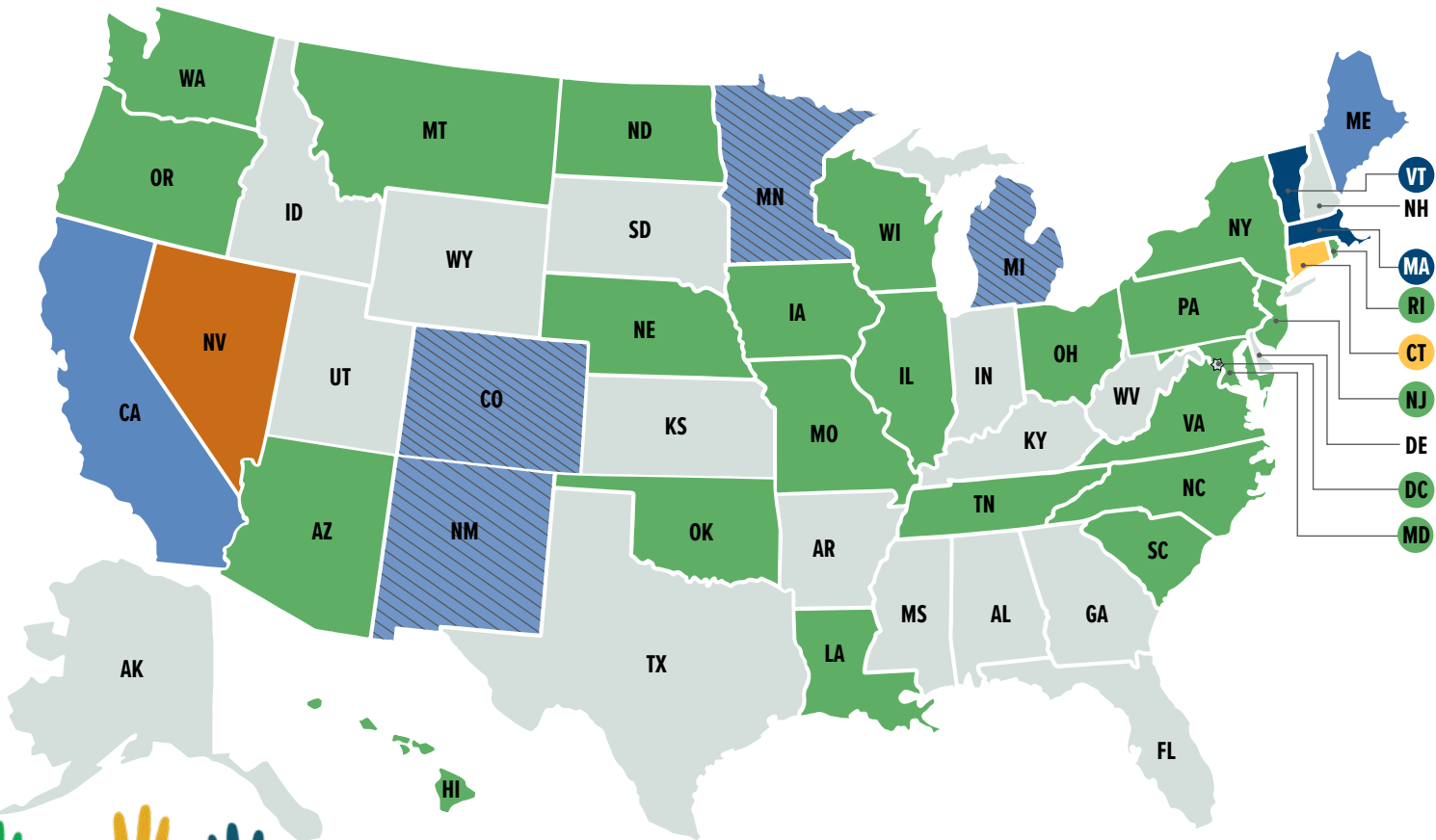
Research links participation in **school meals** to **positive educational and health outcomes** for children.



Sixty-three percent of voters believe that **free school meals for all students nationwide** should be made **permanent**, according to FRAC polling.

Momentum Is Building for Healthy School Meals for All

Across the U.S., parents, teachers, students, school nutrition staff, policymakers, and many others are raising their hand in support of Healthy School Meals for All. California, Colorado, Maine, Minnesota, New Mexico, Vermont, Michigan, and Massachusetts have passed permanent Healthy School Meals for All legislation. Connecticut and Nevada have passed short-term policies, and many other states are considering Healthy School Meals for All bills.



- Permanent Policies Passed, Starting 2022–2023 School Year
- Permanent Policies Passed, Starting 2023–2024 School Year
- Policy in Place for 2022–2023; Permanent Policies Passed, Starting 2023–2024 School Year
- Policy in Place for 2022–2023, 2023–2024 School Years
- Policies in Place for 2022–2023 School Year/Working to Pass HSMFA Legislation
- Working to Pass HSMFA Legislation

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Learn more at www.FreeSchoolMealsforAll.org