



HNS 05-2022

MEMORANDUM

To: School Food Authorities Operating the National School Lunch Program

From: Melissa Conner, Associate Superintendent

Date: June 7, 2022

Original Signed

Subject: School Year 2022-23 State Match Requirements for Districts and Charter Schools

This memorandum provides guidance regarding state match funding requirements as listed in 7 CFR 210.17(a).

The amount of state match funding required for each school district and charter school, who receive State appropriate funds, is equal to 30% of the total number of lunches served through NSLP in the previous school year, multiplied by the paid lunch reimbursement rate. For SY 2021-22, the paid lunch reimbursement rate was either \$0.35 or \$0.37, depending on the school's eligibility for the low or high rate, plus the additional \$0.07 received by menu-certified districts and charter schools, if applicable.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic and unexpected school closures, many districts and charter schools continue to operate under USDA waivers allowing feeding through Child Nutrition Programs other than NSLP during the school year. Many SFAs opted to operate the NSLP Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for SY 2021-22. Due to this unique situation, Health and Nutrition Services (HNS) is providing alternate guidance for calculating the state match requirement, which will be budgeted and expended from either Maintenance & Operations (M&O) and Capital Outlay funds for districts, or State Equalization Assistance funds for charter schools in SY 2022-23.

The number of SSO lunches served may not be used to calculate state match funding. Districts and charter schools must use either the total number of NSLP lunches served in SY 2018-19, SY 2019-20, SY 2020-21, or SY 2021-22, whichever is higher, multiplied by the district or charter school's applicable SY 2021-22 NSLP paid lunch reimbursement rate. Further, 30% of this number will be the amount of state match funding that must be allocated for SY 2022-23. This guidance intends to ensure that the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting changes in school meal service operations do not unnecessarily impact available funding. This guidance is only for budgeting SY 2022-23 state match and will revert to the original formula in future years.

Public school districts should budget and expend Maintenance & Operations (M&O) and Capital Outlay funds reported on the SY 22-23 Food Service Annual Financial Report (FSAFR). Charter schools should budget and spend State Equalization Assistance funds to meet state match requirements. The amount of State Equalization Assistance funds will be reported in Section E of the SY 22-23 FSAFR (State Equalization Assistance Expended for Food Service). Nonpublic schools are provided an exemption per 7 CFR 210.17 (b).

SFAs with questions regarding this guidance may contact their assigned HNS Specialist. SFAs may also email ContactHNS@azed.gov or call 602-542-8700 to reach the Specialist of the Day if their assigned HNS Specialist is not available.

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