

Email: snasctb@gmail.com Website: www.snaofsc.com Todd A. Bedenbaugh, Executive Director Phone: 803-767-7351

Local Food for Schools Cooperative Agreement Program (LFS)

Please support LFS, the USDA will award funds to states for food assistance purchases of domestic local foods for distribution to schools. This program will strengthen the food system for SC Schools and SC Farmers. This program assists SC Farmers with other markets to sell SC Produce to South Carolina Schools. This will create more jobs and additional revenue for SC Farmers.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

CEP allows schools to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting household applications for free and reduced meals. CEP allows all students in the school access to meals without the stigma of eating "free" school meals. It also reduces administrative barriers and burdens for school personnel and families (from application processing and income documentation) and reduces student meal debt and lunch shaming. The Ways and Means reconciliation package propose to increase the **ISP requirement from 25% to 60%.** The impact of this change is that CEP participation will decrease in SC resulting in fewer students having access to no cost school breakfasts and lunches.

CEP participation

1,007 SCHOOLS 83.78% of schools in SC 602,988 STUDENTS 78% of students in SC

While the proposal is not specific, if every school must indivually meet the 60% ISP, 324 schools and 258,471 students would not qualify for CEP.

Research shows that schools provide children with their <u>healthiest meals of the day</u>, playing a crucial role in preventing obesity, chronic disease, and supporting academic achievement. <u>We urge you</u> to support our current meal program standards, including CEP, and to strengthen local food systems to ensure ALL South Carolina students have access to the nutrition they need to be better learners and lead healthier lives.



For less than the price of a latte, schools must prepare and serve a nutritious lunch, complete with fruits, vegetables and milk.

	Chick-Fil-A Sandwich	Clux Deluxe Chicken Sandwich (K-12)
Calories	420	380
Total Fat	18	9.5
Saturated	3.5	1.5
Cholesterol	70	60
Sodium	1460	800
Cost	\$5.97	\$2.50



MEALS SERVED IN 2023-2024 SY

46,402,835 BREAKFAST

82,161,498 LUNCH

5,056,006 AFTER SCHOOL SNACKS

133,620,339 TOTAL



953,066 BREAKFAST

1,242,396 LUNCH

17,521 AFTER SCHOOL SNACKS

2,212,983 TOTAL