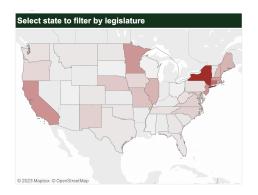
Check out NFSN's Existing Work to Promote Values-Aligned School Meals (click the images below)



Visit our Who's at the Table: School Meals Campaign Website



[Announcement] National Farm to School Network expands efforts to strengthen values-aligned universal meals across the country



Click through our Interactive State Policy Map

For the 2023 Legislative Sessions



Access our **Action Packs** and **Social Media Toolkits**



Access our "Build Your Own Meal" game

Briefs and Resources



Case studies about healthy school meals for all campaigns in California, Vermont, Maine, and Colorado told through a farm to school lens.



Strategies to Center Youth in School Meals for All Advocacy

(February 2025) En español



School Meals for All (SM4A), also known as universal meals, remains incredibly popular. Eight states now permanently provide school meals at no cost to students, and more than two dozen more have introduced similar policies. Additionally, national and state-specific polls show overwhelming public support for SM4A policies.

Despite the momentum, many people still express skepticism about the need or value of SMAA. In the table below, we list arguments often raised as roadblocks to SMAA policies, and compile responses that others have used to address these roadblocks throughout their advocacy.

4-pager: Addressing Messaging Roadblocks to School Meals for All

(May 2024)









2-pager: How School Meals for All Can Improve Meal Quality and Put Local Food on the Menu ... Even In States Without Strong Farm to School Policies (February 2024)



Source: Hunger-Free Vermont and the Vermont Farm to School Network

Graphics That Demonstrate The Mutual Benefits of Farm to School and School Meals for All

(February 2024)



Advocating for Farm to School: How to Host Site Visits

(July 12, 2023)

"Values-Aligned?" • Using the phrase "values-aligned school tunches" may not be clear unless there are shared definitions and consensus in these values. • The values need to be defined upfront and be broadly resonant (like community care) to move the needle on community-led advocacy in various settings.

How to Communicate the Benefits of Values-Aligned Universal Meals

(April 3, 2023)



Universal Meals Policies Can Strengthen a Just and Resilient Local Food System

(December 19, 2022)

Webinars



Transforming School Meals: How School Meals for All Policies Can Drive Food System Change

(September 17, 2024) Slides



Youth Engagement in School Meals for All Advocacy

(July 16, 2024) In English | En español | Slides



Farm to School: The Common Thread in Successful Universal Meals Campaigns

(July 20, 2023) <u>In English</u> | <u>En español</u> | <u>Slides</u>



Advocating for Farm to School: How to Host Site Visits

(July 12, 2023) In English | En español





Uniting for a Just Local Food System Through Healthy School Meals for All

Policies - Featuring the Colorado Healthy School Meals for All Coalition

Part 1: Colorado's Policy Pathway and Overview (June 22, 2023) (English only)

Part 2: Creating Colorado's Coalition and Organizing for Change (June 29, 2023) In English | En español



Briefing: How to Communicate the Benefits of Universal School Meals to Win **Hearts, Minds and Policy**

(April 4, 2023)



A Win in Colorado! A Conversation with **Hunger Free Colorado on Prop FF Passing** (December 16, 2022)



Social Media Training

(November 15, 2022) Slides





Candidate Education Training

(September 12, 2022)

Partner Resources





The following chart lists Healthy School Meals for All state legislation that has been introduced. To date, eight states have successfully passed legislation to offer free school meals to all students, regardless of household income. Many additional states have introduced similar legislation.

State	Bill Language	Description + Estimated Investment Needed	Meals Covered	Applicable Schools Required or voluntary	Governor support? Bipartisan support?	Status
Artzona	НБ.2238	Provide free breakfasts and lunches to pupils in kindergarten programs and grades one through twelve in each charter school and school district. limited the \$106,000,000 from the state general fund.	Breakfast & lunch	Charter schools and school districts Participation is voluntary	Not included in governor's budget All original sponsors are democrats	Bill introduced in 2023
California www.schoolmealsforall.org	CA AB 130, the Education finance: education commisus budgest trailer bill AB 558 School medis: Child Nutrition Act of 2022	Legislation solidifies Universal Meal Program and provides funding for school kitchen equipment upgrades, food service staff training, the Farm to School Program and evaluation for universal meals. The legislation also requires eligible schools to apply for federal provisions to maximize	Breakfast & lunch	All schools required to participate. Schools must use CEP or Provision 2 or 3.	Not included in governor's budget. Governor (D) signed budget bill into law.	Policy passed and it being implemented State date: SY 2022-2023

FRAC: State Healthy School Meals for All Legislative Chart

(Latest Update: September 2024)



FRAC: Healthy School Meals for All Annotated Bibliography

(July 2024)

Op-Eds

- Brezzell: Michigan's Schools Need Farm Fresh Food Detroit News (June 12, 2023)
- Pennsylvania children need free lunch at school as well as free breakfast |
 Opinion PennLive (May 13, 2023)
- <u>The Time for Nationwide Healthy School Meals for All Is Now</u> NFSN Blog (May 9, 2023)
- Values-Aligned Universal School Meals Is An Opportunity for States to Transform
 The Food System State Innovation Exchange (May 2023)
- <u>Healthy School Meals for All Can Strengthen a Local and Resilient Food System</u> Food Research and Action Center (March 15, 2023)
- Opinion: How Colorado's Healthy School Meals for All Bill Supports Farmers and Students (January 20, 2023)