

- State
 - **CalFresh: Expand the Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot to boost benefits for a greater number of CalFresh households.**
 - Supplemental benefit programs provide matching dollars tied to the purchase of California-grown vegetables and fruit. These matching programs operate locally across the state to make purchasing food more affordable for Californians with low-income.
 - Since the state pilots were funded in 2018, hunger and hardship have spiked across the state. By leveraging the pilot EBT technology that is ready to launch, the state can provide additional CalFresh benefits to many more households facing poverty and hunger. We can also ensure the pilot reaches diverse regions of the state.
 - **Ensure full funding for CA Meals for All now and in perpetuity**
 - The \$650M currently allocated for this program is insufficient. Since SFUSD has now implemented Universal Meals due to COVID, we have more accurate data on the cost of implementation than was used in the initial budget request. The State should combine this data with the California Department of Education's numbers for districts that do not currently participate to determine a more accurate budget allocation.
 - Codify language to ensure that funding is an entitlement rather than a capped appropriation. Furthermore, the funding needs to address the increased costs associated with providing meals in CA. Funding meals at the National School Lunch Program reimbursement rate is insufficient. Meals should continue to be funded as they are now- under the SFSP rate plus CA reimbursement for free & reduced-priced meals.
 - Currently, the State does not provide reimbursement for meals that SFUSD serves to students who do not qualify for free or

reduced meals. The State should add reimbursement for these paid meals for school districts.

- The infrastructure funding should continue and be increased. Currently, \$150 million in one-time funding has been appropriated to support kitchen infrastructure and nutrition staff training statewide. Each district is guaranteed only \$25k for infrastructure and \$2,000 for training. To remodel a kitchen to Heat & Serve (pre-packaged food) costs \$500k, and to remodel a kitchen to enable scratch cooking costs \$1M. To meet the infrastructure needs of schools statewide, the State would need in the range of \$600M-\$2.8B as shown in this [study](#).
- **CACFP**
 - Increase funding for compensation for the increased cost of food and foodservice for providers operating the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) during the pandemic and during the recovery.
 - Make permanent the policy to issue subsidy Reimbursement Based on Enrollment Rather than Attendance, otherwise referred to as “hold harmless” (CBB No. 21-07).
 - Work with the CDE to expand its definition of “recognized medical authority” to include registered nurses, so that school nurses can work with families to determine if a child would benefit from lactose free milk or another alternative that does not meet the definition of “cow’s milk equivalent.” This would allow SFUSD child care centers and schools to purchase lactose-free milk or other alternatives for only those children who have been identified as needing it and would not require a visit to the child’s doctor.

Federal (Meg)

- **School Meals**

- Continue Federal waivers as they are including the SFSP reimbursement rate.
- Adopt state-wide Community Eligibility Provision, continue non-congregate feeding waiver to continue to serve students in non-

traditional settings while the pandemic continues to shift our learning environments

- Continue meal pattern waivers to continue as supply chain issues are not going to resolve themselves for the foreseeable future.
- **P-EBT**
 - Continue to fund this new program.
 - Add an option for additional cards to be passed out at the site level for students who are being suspended so that they can get meals during that time.
- **CACFP**
 - Support passage of S.1270 (Senator Casey’s Access to Healthy Foods for Young Children Act of 2021) to improve the reach of the food program through smart solutions. S.1270 proposes to:
 - Improve CACFP area eligibility and acknowledge high food costs by making the current regulation of reimbursing all participants at Tier I permanent
 - Increase CACFP reimbursement rates to support CACFP sponsoring organizations
 - Allow additional meal or snack for CACFP reimbursement
 - Make permanent the CACFP waivers issued throughout the pandemic that made it easier for individuals to access services and organizations to provide services, including, but not limited to:
 - Non-Congregate Feeding Waiver
 - Meal Service Time Flexibilities Waiver
 - Nationwide Waiver of On-site Monitoring Requirements for Sponsors in the CACFP
 - CACFP At-Risk Area Eligibility Waiver
 - Parent or Guardian Pick-up
 - Allow annual eligibility for proprietary (for-profit) child care programs.
 - Streamline program requirements, reduce paperwork, and maximize technology to improve program access.
 - Align CACFP administrative requirements with those of the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
 - Allow fewer monitor visits.
 - Allow direct certification, eliminating enrollment forms, and creating community eligibility options.

DRAFT State and Local Policy Recommendations for 2022

Food Security Task Force

(Please note – the final version will be edited for brevity)

- Use the Consumer Price Index for Food Away from Home as the cost-of-living adjustment for family child care home CACFP reimbursement rates.
- Continue funding the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA’s) Team Nutrition CACFP nutrition education and program efforts.
- **WIC**
 - Ensure that Child Nutrition Reauthorization includes changes outlined in marker bills (WIC Act, WIC for Kids Act, and Modern WIC Act):
 - Extend WIC to cover children up to age 6
 - Expand postpartum eligibility to 2 years
 - Extend certification periods
 - Streamline certification, removing the in-person requirement.
 - Extend funding for online shopping pilot and an increase in fruit and vegetable Cash Value benefit