

School Lunch Hero Day

May 3rd, 2024

This annual celebration is a chance to showcase the difference that school nutrition professionals make in the lives of every child who comes through the cafeteria.

**SCHOOL LUNCH
HERO DAY**

Digital Resources

Implementation Toolkit

Coloring Sheets

DIY Cards and Aprons

SLHD Poster

SLHD Graphics



SquareMeals.org/SLHD

2023 Turnip the Beet Awards

The Turnip the Beet Award, run by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), recognizes outstanding Summer Meal Program sponsors who work hard to offer high quality meals that are appetizing, appealing, and nutritious.



Congratulations to the 38 Texas Awardees



GOLD



- Birdville ISD
- Channelview ISD
- Copperas Cove ISD
- Duncanville ISD
- Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD
- Frankston ISD
- Galena Park ISD
- Garland ISD
- Grapevine-Colleyville ISD
- Kilgore ISD
- Lamar CISD
- Laredo ISD
- Magnolia ISD
- Mission CISD
- North East ISD
- San Antonio ISD
- San Marcos CISD
- The Right Start Summer Program at TAMUK
- Yes Prep Public Schools

SILVER



- Anahuac ISD
- Brenham ISD
- Brownsville ISD
- College Station ISD
- Dickinson ISD
- Fort Bend ISD
- Grand Prairie ISD
- Hempstead ISD
- Katy ISD
- Killeen ISD
- Lewisville ISD
- Marble Falls ISD
- Northwest ISD
- Pasadena ISD
- Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD
- Rio Hondo
- Rockdale ISD
- South San Antonio ISD
- Temple ISD

SquareMeals.org/TurniptheBeet

Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative

Healthy Meals Incentives Grants for Small and/or Rural Food Authorities

Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Awards

18 Texas HMI Grantee

Texas HMI Awardees

Healthy Meals Incentives Recognition Awards

Congratulations!

- Coleman ISD – Innovation in the Preparation of School Meals

National and Local Recognition

Awardee Toolkit with Promotional Resources

Complimentary registration and travel stipend to attend an exclusive Healthy Meals Summit in Las Vegas – October 2024 and 2025



Breakfast Trailblazer Award

HEALTHY
MEALS
INCENTIVES

School breakfast can be the foundation to student success. The Breakfast Trailblazer fuels a student's day by providing a nutritious breakfast with limited added sugars and engages students in planning breakfast menus that are fun and enjoyable.

School Food Authorities (SFA) are eligible to apply for this Recognition Award if they participate in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) in the contiguous United States, Hawaii, Alaska, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, or the United States Virgin Islands.

Award Criteria

Within the past 12 months, the SFA has changed their reimbursable school breakfast menus to reduce added sugars, using at least **two** strategies.

The following list includes example strategies that the SFA can use to reduce added sugars (additional strategies can also be used):

- Only unflavored milk is offered.
- All breakfast cereals contain ≤ 6 grams of added sugars per dry ounce.
- All yogurts contain ≤ 12 grams of added sugars per 6 ounces.
- No grain-based desserts are offered, as defined by superscripts 3, 4, or 5 in the Food Buying Guide for Child Nutrition Programs.
- Weekly breakfast menus are limited to 200 calories.

Note: Strategies may include the use of natural sweeteners, such as artificial sweeteners, such as artificial

At least half (≥ 50 percent) of the SFA's breakfast menus must meet the award criteria and all grade levels.

*If your SFA only has one school serving breakfast, you must submit documentation for at least one school.

The SFA has used student demonstrations, or advisory committees, or flavor stations, etc.) to ensure student engagement.



Breakfast Trailblazer Award

HEALTHY
MEALS
INCENTIVES

Required Documentation

Provide a description of each strategy selected including:

- How it was implemented;
- When the change occurred; and
- What the impact was on the added sugar content of school breakfasts (e.g., the strategy reduced added sugars in the breakfast menu by X grams).

Submit breakfast menu for one month that has been posted on the district website or other public location representing all grade groups, including sufficient detail for reviewers to assess the changes. Identify which items on the menu reflect the implemented strategies.

Provide a list detailing names and corresponding grade levels for each school in the district participating in the School Breakfast Program (indicating which schools were used to qualify for the award).

Provide a description of student engagement activities and/or culinary techniques implemented to assist in the reduction of added sugars in school breakfast menus, details about the activities, number of participants, the outcomes, and school names, and grades.

Applicants may submit optional photographs including two or three clear, high-resolution photos of the menu items and any relevant activities with release forms providing USDA with royalty free unlimited rights to the use and printing of the photographs and parental permission forms, when applicable. A high-resolution image is one that's at least 300 DPI, or "dots per inch."

Texas Fruit and Vegetable Day

April 5th, 2024

The 88th Texas Legislature designated the first Friday in April as Texas Fruit and Vegetable Day in public schools to promote awareness of the health benefits of eating fruits and vegetables at school



Texas Fruit and Vegetable Day Success Stories